

Court hints at freedom for Honecker

BERLIN (R) — Berlin's constitutional court opened the way Tuesday for former East German leader Erich Honecker to be freed from jail, saying his continued imprisonment breached basic human rights. Mr. Honecker, 80, who is gravely ill with liver cancer, has been on trial since November on manslaughter charges arising from shootings at the Berlin Wall. The court's nine judges said they were not empowered to order Mr. Honecker's release but the German constitution's protection of human rights meant a criminal court must decide as soon as possible whether to free him. A spokesman for the Berlin justice ministry said the Berlin criminal court's three professional judges and two lay judges were meeting behind closed doors. The constitutional court's ruling annulled the criminal court's previous decisions on keeping Mr. Honecker in investigative custody and his three defense lawyers said he could be freed later in the day. But the justice ministry spokesman said Mr. Honecker could not be released on Tuesday because another court could not meet until Wednesday to decide whether to lift a second arrest warrant against him.

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'Damascus 10' calls for strike

DAMASCUS (R) — An alliance of 10 hardline Palestinian groups called Tuesday for a general strike in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip Sunday in solidarity with more than 400 Palestinians expelled by Israel. The Damascus-based alliance also called on Palestinians in the occupied territories to stage protests outside the houses of Palestinians involved in peace negotiations with Israel to urge them pull out of the talks. They also urged Palestinians to visit the families of the men Israel expelled to South Lebanon on Dec. 17. "We ask all Palestinians inside the occupied Arab territories to participate in a general strike on Jan. 17 to show solidarity with the evictees," the alliance said in a statement. It also urged Palestinians in Syria, Lebanon and Jordan to stage similar protests on Jan. 17 and 18.

Reynolds reelected Irish premier

DUBLIN (R) — The Irish parliament, ending almost two months of political turmoil, Tuesday elected Albert Reynolds to head a coalition government with the largest majority in the history of Ireland. Mr. Reynolds, the big loser in last November's inconclusive general election, was reelected prime minister by 102-60 votes after hammering out a coalition deal with the resurgent Labour Party headed by former Irish rugby international Dick Spring. The alliance, the first between Labour and the ruling Fianna Fail (Soldiers of Destiny) party, has agreed on a five-year blueprint for change, promising to create 30,000 jobs in a flagging economy and defend the punt against speculators.

Nureyev laid to rest

PARIS (R) — Stars of the dance world thronged to the funeral of Rudolf Nureyev at the Paris Opera House Tuesday in a last homage to the temperamental genius widely regarded as this century's greatest ballet dancer. Hundreds of ballet fans pressed against police barriers outside the lavish 19th century theatre in central Paris as six soloists of the Paris Opera Ballet hoisted a plain wooden coffin on to their shoulders and carried it into the entrance. Nureyev, who defected from the Soviet Union to the West in 1961, spelling audiences around the world for three decades, died last Wednesday at 54 of a protracted and wasting disease widely believed to be AIDS.

Iran gets 25th province

NICOSIA (AP) — The Iranian parliament Tuesday passed a bill to divide East Azerbaijan and form a separate central Azerbaijani province, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Tuesday. The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said East Azerbaijan would be given a new provincial capital, Ardabil. The current provincial capital at Tabriz will go to central Azerbaijan. IRNA said in October that the new province, Iran's 25th, would be named Sabalan. It did not say why this name was dropped.

U.S. navy ship stuck near Suez entrance

PORT SAID (AP) — U.S. Navy technicians came to the rescue Tuesday of a Somalia-bound cargo vessel stuck on a buoy near the entrance of the Suez Canal. Canal officials said the vehicle cargo ship Capella has been stranded since last Thursday, its anchor locked into a light-bearing navigation buoy. About eight kilometers off Port Said harbour, at the canal's northern entrance, as the ship arrived in a storm for its passage from the Mediterranean to the Red Sea, its anchor came into contact with the buoy, officials said. They said canal authority technicians were unable to free the ship because of continuing bad weather. It was then decided to bring in the seven U.S. Navy specialists who arrived Tuesday. The Capella is bound for strife-torn Somalia.

Iraqis continue to remove Umm Qasr equipment; allies furious

Iraqi missiles again 'operational'; U.S. says no new warning will be issued before action

Combined agency dispatches

Iraqis in civilian clothes entered the zone Tuesday to continue removal of equipment from the Umm Qasr base.

"They are demolishing buildings and taking whatever they can — windows, cables, everything," Mr. Kabaj said.

He said the Iraqis were not armed but again had failed to get the required prior approval from the United Nations for the work.

The latest foray came a day after the U.N. Security Council criticised earlier raids and demanded that Baghdad return anti-air missiles it seized on Sunday.

"Things are clearly indicating that one of the pillars of the ceasefire resolution is undermined," said Hungarian Ambassador Andre Erdos.

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Sahaf: Iraq has U.N. permission to take its property from border

AMMAN (J.T.) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammad Saeed Al Sahaf Tuesday rejected accusations that his country had violated Gulf war ceasefire terms and said Baghdad had United Nations approval to remove Iraqi equipment from territory which the world body has defined as part of Kuwait.

"There is no Iraqi incursion into Kuwait," Mr. Sahaf told Jordan Television in an interview upon his return from Cairo after attending an Arab League foreign ministers' meeting. "I think (the report of incursions) is disinformation, or for sure it is distortion."

According to the minister, Iraq had reached agreement with Major-General Dibas, commander of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observer Mission (UNIKOM), to remove "all Iraqi property ... large amounts of things that should be evacuated ... (from) the Umm Qasr naval base before Jan. 15."

"A big part of this naval base is now on the other side of the line ... after they (the U.N.) imposed the new demarcation line," Mr. Sahaf said referring to the new Iraq-Kuwait borders defined by a U.N. team. Iraq has refused to accept the new borders.

Mr. Sahaf told Jordan Television that UNIKOM had informed the U.N. headquarters of the agreement with Iraq to remove the equipment from Umm Qasr. "The evacuation was (conducted) with the full consent of UNIKOM and the U.N.," he said.

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Bosnian Serbs accept proposals for peace

GENEVA (AP) — The leader of Bosnia's Serbs Tuesday accepted peace proposals for the war-torn country, a breakthrough towards a settlement after nine months of brutal fighting.

Radovan Karadzic said he told mediators Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen he had given up his demand for a separate Serb state within Bosnia, which had blocked the four-month-old peace talks on former Yugoslavia.

There was no immediate word from Mr. Vance and Lord Owen.

Mr. Karadzic confirmed that he had agreed to a constitutional framework proposed by the mediators, subject to approval by the Bosnian Serbs' assembly within a week.

"This is a very important and

essential step toward peace," said Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, at the Geneva talks for the first time. "The basic principles have been accepted by all delegations."

Mr. Karadzic's apparent concession came at the end of the three days of intensive lobbying by his mentor Milosevic, whose fervent nationalism the West has blamed for triggering war in Croatia and Bosnia, and Yugoslav President Dobrica Cosic.

Mr. Cosic's spokesman Dragoslav Rancic said "friendly persuasion" was used on Mr. Karadzic.

The Constitutional plan would

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Israel proposes halting nuclear weapons spread

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel, which is widely believed to have a nuclear arsenal, said Tuesday it would propose for the first time this week halting the spread of nuclear weapons in the Middle East.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres will make the proposal in a speech in Paris where at least 115 countries are expected to sign a U.N. treaty banning chemical weapons, an official said.

"He will develop the idea of a non-proliferation zone for non-conventional arms, including nuclear, but only when there is peace in the region and that's a little bit of a new idea," foreign ministry spokeswoman Tamar Samash said.

Joseph Alpher, deputy head of

(Continued on page 5)

non-conventional arms, we were not including the nuclear weapons part," she said.

Foreign media and academic reports say Israel has nuclear arms although it refuses to confirm or deny their existence.

Israeli officials say only that the Jewish state will not be the first to introduce nuclear arms to the region.

Israel is the only country at Middle East peace talks which refuses to open its nuclear installations to international inspection.

Syria changed its mind in February, agreeing to grant access to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Joseph Alpher, deputy head of

(Continued on page 5)

Somali peace talks stalled; ceasefire accord threatened

ADDIS ABABA (Agencies) — An outline agreement to declare a ceasefire in Somalia appeared at risk Tuesday because of a "warlords" dispute over who should attend a national reconciliation conference.

Delegates said implementation of a ceasefire and a plan to strip the gunmen of their weapons were dependent upon agreement on who should attend the conference.

In any case, diplomats said, the warlords' control over their militia was minimal and any attempt to disarm them whether by their nominal leadership or a foreign force would be bitterly resented in a country governed by gun law.

"Aided wants special status

(Continued on page 5)

with his bitter Mogadishu rival Ali Mahdi Mohamad want a broad range of participants such as smaller clan factions, tribal elders and civilian political figures to attend on an equal footing with the major warlords.

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"Aided wants special status

(Continued on page 5)

Moves under way to end dispute over parties

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

Four other parties, three of them leftist in orientation, are expected to receive a response from the Ministry of Interior by March 7.

The political role of left-wing political parties in Jordan was put into question when the Ministry of Interior denied legal status to three leftist applicants in December.

The ministry cited prerequisites and conditions included in the political parties law of 1990 for refusing to legalize the Jordanian Communist Party, the Baath Arab Socialist Party and the Jordan People's Democratic Party.

After the three groups accepted the government's decision with the Higher Court of Justice, they met in a special session with Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and a committee of government

ministers in order to resolve the dispute between the two sides.

Activists across the political spectrum feel that democracy and pluralism cannot be achieved in Jordan if left-wing parties are banned for whatever reason.

"I am glad that we had a chance to meet with the prime minister and talk about the situation," said Ahmad Najdawi, head of the Baathist Party.

"I think the government has realized that political pluralism and democracy cannot be introduced if the leftists are left out."

Mr. Najdawi was among the leaders of the five leftist parties that met with the government.

A meeting to discuss political issues related to legalisation of left-wing parties took place last week in the home of Depu-

ty Prime Minister and Minister of Transport Ali Suheiman Sharif Zeid, Deputy Prime Minister Thounan Hindawi, Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Ibrahim Izzeddin and Mr. Suheiman represented the government while Mr. Najdawi, Tayseer Al Zibri (JPDP), Yacoub Zayyad (communist), Lower House member Deeb Marji (Unity Party) and Ali Amer (DPP) represented their respective parties.

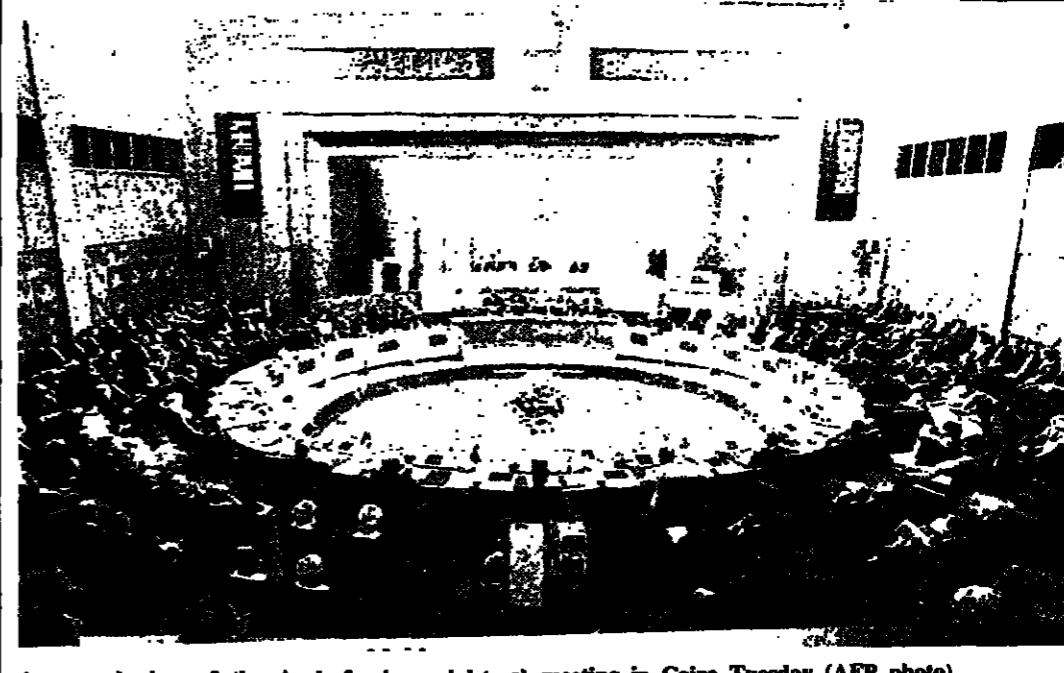
"We worked out a formula in which we may be able to iron out our differences before the appeals go to court," said Mr. Najdawi. "The government needs a clear way out of this dilemma and this will be the best way out."

Asked why he thought the

(Continued on page 5)

Some Arabs signing chemical ban

CAIRO (AP) — Some Arab countries plan to sign an international agreement banning chemical weapons, Egypt and the Arab League's secretary-general said Tuesday. Such a move would violate a joint Arab decision to protest Israel's nuclear weapons policy by refusing to sign. Neither Egypt's foreign minister, Amr Mousa, nor Secretary-General Esmat Abdul Meguid would divulge who was breaking ranks within the Arab League, which comprises 20 states and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Last September, the Arab League voted unanimously at a council session in Cairo not to sign the chemical agreement with Israel until Israel joins the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. As late as Monday, Mr. Mousa reminded reporters of the decision's unanimity. "All the Arab countries will respect this decision, not to sign unless Israel takes steps towards nuclear non-proliferation," he said. The United States, Russia and around 120 other countries are expected to sign the chemical pact in Paris during three-day ceremonies opening Wednesday. One Arab diplomat speaking on condition of anonymity said at least three from the Arab bloc also will sign: Algeria and Two Arab states of the Gulf region. The diplomat would not name them.



A general view of the Arab foreign ministers' meeting in Cairo Tuesday (AFP photo)

Arabs demand U.N. sanctions on Israel; no halt to peace talks

CAIRO (Agencies) — Arab foreign ministers demanded Tuesday that the U.N. Security Council impose sanctions on Israel if it refuses to allow more than 400 expelled Palestinians to return home.

The resolution calls on the United Nations to create an appropriate mechanism to ensure the implementation of the Fourth Geneva Convention, particularly by appointing an international force to protect citizens in the occupied Palestinian and Arab lands.

The Geneva Convention regulates the treatment of people in territories captured in war.

The ministers' resolution, read to reporters by Arab League Secretary-General Esmat Abdul Meguid, also called on the Security Council to appoint an international force to protect Palestinians living in the Israeli-occupied territories.

"The (Arab League) resolution calls on the Security Council to take adequate measures, including application of the rules of Chapter VII of the U.N. Charter, to oblige Israel to implement Resolution 799 immediately," the statement added.

Chapter VII allows the imposition

of sanctions and Resolution 799, passed on Dec. 18, orders Israel to allow the evictees to return home.

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Mr. Abdul Meguid called on the Security Council "not to have a double standard in dealing with the tragedy" and to act with the same firmness as it had on other issues.

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"There are rules that are being violated," Mr. Abdul Meguid said.

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No U.S. promise to veto sanctions

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States said Monday it hoped to avoid a U.N. resolution to impose sanctions against Israel for its expulsion of 415 Palestinians, but declined to say it would veto such a resolution.

"It is our strong desire to avoid having the United Nations Security Council face a Chapter VII sanctions issue on this subject," said State Department spokesman Richard Boucher.

"We believe that any further action now by the Security Council would be premature until the secretary-general has exhausted his efforts," he said.

Asked what Washington would do if such a resolution were tabled, he would not answer, but merely repeated his statement.

Israel's ambassador in Washington, Zalman Shoval, said Saturday he had received assurances that the United States would veto any resolution to impose sanctions.

"I would like to say quite clearly that we have been assured by the State Department at a very high level ... that in no case will the U.S. allow the Security Council to adopt a resolution which could lead to sanctions against Israel," Mr. Shoval told Israel Radio.

But officials who asked not to be identified said no such commitment had been given. In fact, they said, when Israel's U.N. ambassador, Gad Ya'acobi, met his U.S. counterpart, Edward Perkins, the American side was careful not to say what the United States would do if such a resolution came to a vote.

The United States supported a Security Council resolution on Dec. 18 condemning the expulsions and urging their reversal. But a subsequent resolution containing sanctions would be a painful dilemma, especially if it were to arise just after President-elect Bill Clinton takes office

Palestinians see explosions as painful history reenacted

By G.G. Labelle
The Associated Press

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — For Palestinians, Israel's latest rejection of U.N. pleas to take back the 415 men expelled to Lebanon reawakens painful emotions dating to the creation of the Jewish state in 1948.

After hundreds of thousands of Palestinians fled or were driven from their homes as Israel came into being, the U.N. Security Council adopted Resolution 194 urging return of the refugees at "the earliest practical date."

Israel refused. Forty-years later, it is again ignoring a United Nations entreaty to take back Palestinians.

Sari Nusseibeh, an adviser to Palestinian peace negotiators, said this painful history is why delegates to the U.S.-backed talks are refusing to return to the table.

"I find it extremely hard for the Palestinian delegation to compromise on this issue," he said. "This measure ... ripped open a very deep wound that every Palestinian carries with him."

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin also was reacting to Israeli emotions in urging the

expulsions. He defended his decision this week as a second U.N. envoy pressed Israel to comply with the Security Council's demand to take back the evictees.

At the time the 415 men were expelled in mid-December, Israelis were outraged at the killings of six troopers. Israel accused the evictees of being supporters of Muslim groups blamed for the slayings.

Israel may have miscalculated the Palestinians' reaction, too. Logic might say that the Palestinian peace negotiators would accept, or even applaud, expelling hardliners from the fundamentalist Hamas movement.

Hamas is the chief rival of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in the occupied territories and is desperately fighting the peace process that the PLO supports.

But logic does not always apply in the Middle East. The Palestinians and other Arab delegates immediately pulled out of the Washington peace talks, and protests erupted in the occupied territories.

Faisal Husseini, who as chief adviser to the negotiators has received death threats from hardline Palestinians, said that

Hamas was part of Palestinian national unity and was fighting the same "ruthless enemy."

Dr. Nusseibeh said the expulsions unleashed a pandora's box of fears. I've heard people saying this is only a continuation of Israeli policy ... this is going to be a step towards further transfers."

It did not help that Mr. Rabin was the chief force behind the expulsions. Palestinians had warmed to his promises to speed up peace talks but distrusted him for his role in trying to quell their five-year uprising, and in expelling Palestinians in 1948.

As a young officer, Mr. Rabin oversaw the largest single expulsions of Arabs in 1948, driving about 50,000 men, women and children out of the Arab towns of Lydda and Ramle into what is now the occupied West Bank.

During the forced march from Lydda in the heat of July 1948, some old people and children died from lack of water. The people of Ramle, seeing their neighbours' suffering, agreed to go peacefully if given buses.

Mr. Rabin called the action a military necessity — removing a hostile population — in a section deleted from his 1979



An elderly Palestinian expellee dries his clothes in over 400 other Palestinians expelled by Israel on front of his tent in South Lebanon, where he and Dec. 17 are stranded (AP photo)

memoirs by Israeli censors but later printed by the New York Times.

In his account, Mr. Rabin recalled the march from Lydda. "There was no way to avoid the use of force and warning shots in order to make the inhabitants march to the point where they met up with the Arab Legion," he wrote. The idea, Mr. Rabin wrote, was to force the Jordanian

army to care for the refugees — "shouldering logistic difficulties which would burden its fighting capacity, making things easier for us."

It is not hard to see how Palestinians can make a comparison with today's expulsions of 415 men — some from 1948 refugee families — and Israel's attitude that, once over the border, they were Lebanon's responsibility.

Dr. Nusseibeh said the Palestinians simply see history repeating itself in the latest expulsions and the failed U.N. efforts to reverse them.

"As far as Palestinians are concerned ... the pain in their collective memory is the whole business of being made homeless, being made refugees," he said. "It's a pain I don't really think anyone but the Palestinians understands."

Afghan rivals agree to temporary truce

KABUL (R) — Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani's government and the radical Hezb-e-Islami party have agreed to a temporary truce, sources in a peace mission set up last week said.

But no formal statement from either side was available.

The Hezb had threatened Sunday to close down Kabul's airport, saying it would shoot down planes using the airport or nearby Bagram air base if the government failed to release imprisoned Hezb members by Monday evening.

The peace mission which includes representatives of several Mujahedeen groups is led by Shi'ite Muslim leader Ayatollah Mohseni.

The sources said both sides agreed in talks with the mission to draw up lists of each other's prisoners held during intermittent fighting since last April when the Mujahedeen took power from the collapsed former communist government after 14 years of civil war.

The sides have also agreed not to fight until a proposed meeting of the leaders of all Afghan Mu-



Burhanuddin Rabbani

jahedeen parties is held in Kabul, the sources said.

No date for the meeting was set. The sources said the peace mission was trying to contact the Mujahedeen leaders, some of whom are living in neighbouring Pakistan.

"We are very keen to negotiate," presidential spokesman Abdul Aziz Morad told reporters.

The Afghan government Sunday announced the formation of a 205-member interim parliament chosen from more than 1,000 members of a controversial assembly that last month elected Mr. Rabbani as president for the next two years.

But the Hezb and some other parties that boycotted the Hizb-o-Aqad assembly want Mr. Rabbani to hand over power to a leadership council representing nine Mujahedeen parties.

The council was cobbled together last April to oversee the Mujahedeen government.

But Mr. Morad said the demand to revive the leadership council was not legitimate and was contrary to an April accord among the Mujahedeen parties under which they had taken pow-

Libya reopens land border with Tunisia

TUNIS (R) — Libya reopened its land border with Tunisia Tuesday after a three-day closure in protest at U.N. sanctions imposed over its alleged failure to cooperate in investigations of two airliner bombings.

The Hezb, led by hardline Mujahedeen leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, had earlier told the Kabul government that an unspecified number of its members imprisoned from April 24 till now must be freed Sunday evening.

But it extended the deadline to Monday evening after the peace mission carried proposals from Mr. Rabbani to Mr. Hekmatyar on Sunday at the Hezb headquarters near Kabul.

It said Mr. Bakkar would not have been travelling by road, from a meeting of Arab Justice Ministers in Tunisia, if it were not for the embargo.

Libya also said the sanctions, and subsequent shortage of spare parts for its national airline, played a part in the crash on Dec. 22 of a Libyan commercial plane on an internal flight. The crash killed 157 people.

The U.N. Security Council imposed the air embargo and other sanctions on Libya last April after it refused to hand over two of its citizens accused in the West of blowing up Pan Am Flight 103 over the Scottish town of Lockerbie.

Western governments also accuse Libya of bombing a French airliner over Niger in 1989.

Libya shares land borders with Tunisia, Egypt, Chad, Niger and Sudan, but most overland traffic is with Tunisia and Egypt.

Temporary low profile

Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi is keeping a low profile, but it is a temporary response to internal problems and the inter-



Muammar Qadhafi

national sanctions, not a change in heart or policy, Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) director Robert Gates said Monday.

"My view is he has not changed his spots at all," he told Reuters in an interview.

"His pattern throughout the time he has been in power has been to go forward with some sort of subversive act or some kind of terrorist act and when the world gets upset about it he backs off for a while," he said.

Col. Qadhafi has contributed to his being relatively quiet recently but I think mostly it's the actions that have been taken against him, against Libya for Pan Am 103...

"He's in the mode right now of paying a real price for the involvement of Libyans and the Libyan government in the Pan Am 103 terrorist act," he said.

Despite the low profile, Mr. Gates said Colonel Qadhafi has continued with his programme of developing weapons of mass destruction, particularly chemical weapons.

"He's still working to try and get some capability in the nuclear arena but all of the different restrictions against him have really inhibited that effort and slowed it down," he said.

"But I think that with both the chemical and biological programmes, he's got a very real programme going," he said.

Although Col. Qadhafi has taken some visible steps to close down a handful of "terrorist" training camps, "there are still other such training camps in Libya. He continues to have relationships with some of these different groups," Mr. Gates added.

Iran sees Bush years as chaotic for U.S.

NICOSIA (AP) — A lengthy — and unflattering — review of the United States during the Bush administration's tenure was published Tuesday by Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA).

It says that under President George Bush, the United States "has degenerated into the poorest, the most merciless and the most crime-prone nation in the world."

Iranian leaders routinely refer to the United States as "the great Satan," although there have been signs of efforts by Tehran to try to improve relations with the West.

IRNA's analysis comes a week before Mr. Bush is to hand over the leadership of the country to President-elect Bill Clinton.

IRNA said it based its review "mainly on news reports by international news agencies in the United States."

The Iranian agency said the United States "economically, politically and socially is ailing and chaotic and the worst since the record Wall Street crash of 1929."

It noted, for example, that "there are now 30 million Americans living below the poverty line."

It added: "Some observers say that the uprising by black Americans and American Indians in the United States last year was due mainly to the bad economy, and they add that hungry and unemployed people were a second away from insurrection."

On the social front, it said, "1,100,000 Americans, mainly blacks, were incarcerated for alleged commission of crimes which in essence were poverty related."

IRNA said that news media, especially television, "play the leading role in legitimising violence."

It cited reports in American magazines saying that the U.S. capital city, Washington, "has ranked first in the murder rate among world capitals for the fourth consecutive year during the Bush administration."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

White House gets videotape of Bush deposition

NEW YORK (AP) — Iran-contra prosecutors have turned over to the White House videotapes of the 1988 interview President George Bush gave investigators. The New York Times reported Tuesday editions. Before he leaves office, Mr. Bush plans to make public the contents of the videotaped deposition along with a diary he had kept as vice president, the Times said, quoting unidentified government officials. The White House had called on independent counsel Lawrence E. Walsh to release the interview after Mr. Bush pardoned former Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger and five other officials who had been either charged with wrongdoing or convicted in connection with the Iran-contra affair. The White House has contended that the release of the videotape would rebut critics who charged that Mr. Bush had issued the pardons to cover up his knowledge of the Iran-contra affair. After the Christmas Eve pardons were announced, Mr. Walsh accused Mr. Bush of "misconduct" by withholding the diary until early last month. Late last month, Mr. Bush released former Attorney General Griffin Bell to represent him in dealing with Mr. Walsh's office. Mr. Walsh said he did not learn of the diary's existence until last month despite repeated requests to the White House for documents dating from the period when Mr. Bush was vice president in the Reagan administration. Mr. Bush has said he was aware in 1985 and 1986 of U.S. arms sales to Iran but did not know they were part of a swap of weapons for the release of American hostages held in Lebanon until the Iran-contra affair became public in 1986. The Times quoted administration officials as saying they hoped to release the Bush diary and the videotaped interview before the president leaves office Jan. 20, possibly by week's end. Mary Belcher, a spokeswoman for Mr. Walsh, refused to comment on the report. White House spokeswoman Laura Parham said she had no information on it.

Iranian opposition fighter dies in Iraq

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian Revolutionary Guards slipped into Iraq and killed a combatant of the Iraq-based Iranian opposition Mujahedeen Khalq, the Mujahedeen said Tuesday. Two other fighters were wounded, it said. The group said in a statement that the assault occurred Monday near the Iraqi city of Mandali, about 20 kilometres from the Iranian border. The group said that a vehicle carrying its combatants was ambushed and that the Iranian infiltrators had "died in the dark." The group's claims could not be independently confirmed, and there was no comment from Tehran. If true, the incident would be the second serious Iranian violation of the August 1988 ceasefire that ended the eight-year Iran-Iraq war. Tehran launched an air raid on Mujahedeen military bases in Iraq last April. Iran has been increasingly outspoken about the need to crush the Mujahedeen, which it has blamed for several acts of sabotage in Iran. The Mujahedeen took responsibility for a number of explosions in Iran last year and claimed it instigated several anti-government riots. The group seeks to overthrow Iran's Islamic government by force. The Mujahedeen statement identified the slain combatant as Gholam-Hossein Kazemi, who studied engineering in the United States and recently joined the opposition group. The statement said the Mujahedeen called on the United Nations to investigate the incident.

Japanese prince to tour Middle East

TOKYO (R) — Japanese Crown Prince Naruhito, on what may be his last trip overseas as a bachelor, is to visit six Middle East countries this month, the palace said Tuesday. Prince Naruhito, 32, will leave Japan on Jan. 22 on a two-week tour taking in Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, said a palace spokesman. On Jan. 19, three days before Prince Naruhito's departure, Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will chair an imperial household conference to formally approve the prince's engagement to Masako Owada, 29, a Harvard-educated career diplomat. Japan's mass media, infected with "royal wedding fever," speculate that the marriage will take place in early June. During his Middle East trip, Prince Naruhito will hold talks with regional leaders and visit historical sites and oilfields, the palace spokesman said. He is to return to Japan on Feb. 4.

Algeria backs military action in ex-Yugoslavia

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria is seeking U.N. Security Council action, including military intervention, "to end the genocide of the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina," government spokesman Messoudi Aït Chaala said Monday. In a briefing to local journalists, carried by the official news agency APS, Mr. Chaala said: "Algeria is asking the United Nations Security Council to take all measures, including military, to force an end to the genocide..." He denounced "the Nazi methods of ethnic purification" used by the Serb aggressors" and added: "Surgical measures must be taken so this massacre ceases." Algeria was the first country early in 1992 to ask for U.N. intervention, he said, regretting that the Security Council reaction had not been firm enough. Mr. Chaala's statement was the second by Algeria on the crisis in former Yugoslavia in two days. On Saturday, the Foreign Ministry called for "resolute action" against what it termed crimes against humanity committed by the Serbs.

OAU urges African seriousness over wars

ALGIERS (R) — African countries must give top priority to finding ways of avoiding conflicts and to peacekeeping on the continent, the secretary-general of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) said Monday. "The OAU has not been able to respond as effectively as it should on this question of conflicts ... Africa has to be seen to be more serious than has hitherto been the case," the OAU's Salim Ahmad Salim told a press conference. Mr. Salim, who arrived Sunday, met Algerian leader Ali Kafi and Prime Minister Belaid Abdul Salam Monday. "The question of peacemaking, conflict-resolution in our continent must assume a top agenda of the OAU," Mr. Salim said. "But then this requires resources." He said almost two-thirds of the OAU's member nations had not fully honoured their financial commitments to the organisation, and this had limited its ability to prevent and resolve conflicts. On Tuesday Mr. Salim was to visit the Western Sahara. He said Africa had a vested interest in avoiding renewed fighting in the area, but he acknowledged he was not going with new ideas.

JORDAN TELEVISION

7:00-7:15 AM: Fajr (Sunrise) Dafa

7:15-7:30 AM: Dafa

7:30-7:45 AM: Dafa

7:45-7:55 AM: Dafa

7:55-8:00 AM: Dafa

8:00-8:15 AM: Dafa

8:15-8:30 AM: Dafa

8:30-8:45 AM: Dafa

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9:30-9:45 AM: Dafa

9:45-9:55 AM: Dafa

9:55-10:00 AM: Dafa

Senate passes draft law on CDD Martyrs' Fund after heated debate

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) Tuesday approved four draft laws referred to it by the Lower House, with the Civil Defence Department (CDD) Martyrs' Fund law causing a heated debate among the Senators.

The Senate supported the Lower House of Parliament's amendments to the law, which stipulated that the fund's money be invested in accordance with Islamic laws.

Senator Hamad Al Farhan proposed that the fund's money be deposited in a special account at the Central Bank and be invested only in accordance with the provisions of the law.

"I propose that the council find a logical, reasonable solution that would protect the dignity of (our) intellect and accept to amend the article to make it: 'The Fund's reserves would be deposited at the Central Bank... in a special

account, and shall not be used except in cases stated by the law,'" said Senator Hamad Al Farhan.

Former Prime Minister and Senator Ahmad Obaidat said that the issue was either to invest the fund's money in Islamic banks in a way agreeable to Islamic Sharia or to release them.

"This proposal could have been made in a simple way, but (to mention) respecting intellect and other things, I hope Mr. Hamad will reverse his way of addressing us," Mr. Obaidat said.

Senator Ishaq Al Farhan supported the Lower House's version of the law, and called for investing the fund's money in a way that conform to Islamic teachings.

Then the Senate approved the controversial article and the law as a whole as referred to it by the Lower House.

Sboul hails success of Arab interior ministers meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — Interior Minister Jawdat Sboul Monday evening returned from an Arab ministerial meeting in Tunis and described the deliberations as significant, "reflecting the common Arab understanding of the critical circumstances facing the Arab Nation."

The final statement issued at the end of the two-day meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Upper House, which was meeting under its acting speaker Senator Bahjat Al Talhouni and in the presence of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, referred the general budget draft law to its Financial Committee. The draft law was passed by the Lower House after being endorsed by a majority of 58 deputies out of 69 who attended the debate.

The Senate also discussed its Judiciary Committee's decision on the Sahab and Ruseifa municipalities draft laws. According to the provisions of the two draft laws, two civilian courts will be created in Sahab and Ruseifa.

The Senate approved the two laws and recommended that the government draft a unified law for all municipal courts in a way that conform to Islamic teachings.

It also approved an economic and technical cooperation agreement signed between the governments of Jordan and China.

Cabinet endorses ACC loan, selling of debts

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Tuesday endorsed a loan agreement under which the Social Security Corporation (SSC) will grant the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) a loan of JD 5 million. The loan will be repaid over a period of 10 years with a three-year grace period. Under the agreement, both the government and the ACC will pay the interests on the loan equally.

At the Cabinet's weekly session, chaired by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the Cabinet also agreed to sell Jordan's debt to the International Gulf Bank for 38 per cent of its value and 50 per cent of its interests, as agreed during the London Club negotiations. Jordan's total debts to the Gulf Bank amount to \$61 million, and the total interest is \$8.3 million. The Cabinet also approved the formation of Jordan's delegation to the 38th session of the Executive Committee and the 11th Conference of the Afro-Asian Conference for Rural Advancement which will be held in Malaysia from 4 to 12 February.

Jordan to serve as director of the Arab Bureau for Narcotics. The ministers also approved of the creation of a bureau for information affairs concerning security matters to be headquartered in Cairo. The bureau would be preparing studies and conducting research work related to pan-Arab security matters, especially in the field of countering narcotics.

Mr. Sboul said the meeting elected Brigadier Noureddin Kheir, assistant Public Security Department (PSD) director in

Major celebrations to be held at Al al Beit University

Millions of saplings to be planted on Arbor day

AMMAN (Petra) — Arbor Day celebrations in Jordan will be held Thursday, Jan. 14 in various parts of the country, but the main ceremony will be held under Royal Patronage at the site of Al al Beit University being established in the governorate of Mafrak.

An official statement by the Ministry of Agriculture which is sponsoring the ceremonies around the country, said that prominent Jordanian personalities and representatives of various public and private institutions will take part in planting trees on 100 dunums of land in and around the new university site.

The statement said that the Al al Beit University was chosen as the site for the main celebration this year to draw public attention to the need for combating desertification in the badia region of the Kingdom.

The director of the ministry's Department of Range and Afforestation Azzam Al Muheisen said that his department was distributing three million saplings of various types of trees to individuals and institutions to be planted in home gardens, public gardens and in areas to serve as wind breaks.

Mr. Muheisen said three million saplings of forest and bush trees will be planted by the ministry's departments under its own afforestation programmes and wildlife reserves and along roads and streets.

The department, he said, plants some 30,000 dunums with



Thousands of citizens from various parts of the country are expected to participate in Arbor Day

the 100 institutions and companies approached to participate in this project, he said, 10 have already responded favourably, and have embarked on measures to help carry out the scheme.

Mr. Muheisen said that at the beginning of 1992, the ministry endorsed a national strategy on afforestation which is being implemented with the help of local organisations.

Under the plan, he said, the Ministry of Agriculture will plant trees in areas located in the governorates of Amman, Balqa and Irbid as one initial stage. Out of

part of the department to green the country, Mr. Muheisen said that "every effort is being made towards protecting the soil through intensive planting of trees, whose numbers the department hopes to double in the foreseeable future".

He said the country was striving to stave off desertification and improve the general environment, but it is regrettable that thousands of trees continue to be lost every year through fires and environmental pollution.

Referring to measures on the

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King receives congratulation from Iraqi president

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday received a cable from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein congratulating him on his safe return home after undergoing medical checkups. President Hussein congratulated King Hussein on the good results of the medical checkups, and wished him continued good health and happiness. King Hussein also sent a cable to President of Togo congratulating him on his country's national day, and wishing him continued good health and happiness and the people of Togo further progress and prosperity.

Arabiya meets universities' delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaking of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul Latif Arabiya Tuesday discussed with a delegation from Jordanian universities issues pertaining to the establishment of a general federation for university students in Jordan, and the proposed legal and structural format of this federation. The formation of the federation will be the main subject of discussion, today (Wednesday) by the Lower House, which will debate the legal committee's decision on the proposed draft law of the federation. The House will also discuss the government replies to a number of queries made by 15 deputies about appointments in ministries, government departments and public sector

Meeting discusses revenue stamps law

AMMAN (Petra) — Experts from the Ministry of Finance and representatives of public shareholding companies and commercial banks met Tuesday to discuss a mechanism for applying the revenue stamps law to public shareholding companies. Amman Chamber of Industry's Chairman Khalid Abu Hassan called for updating the law, saying that some of the terms used in it are not in use nowadays. Mr. Abu Hassan said that the imposition of revenue taxes on certificates of origin contravenes with the government's intentions to encourage exports. Director of Public Revenues at the Ministry of Finance Raef Al Alami briefed the meeting on principles of applying the revenue stamps law. He explained some of the legal provisions governing the imposition of such revenue stamps, saying that a special expert group from the ministry will visit the companies and explain all aspects related to this law.

Symposium to discuss population growth

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Society for the Control of Environmental Pollution will next week hold a symposium on environment and population growth. Participants in the symposium, which is organised in cooperation with the German Friedrich Naumann Foundation will discuss population growth policies, environmental dimensions of population growth and women development. Participants will also discuss health care, family planning and diseases related to population growth.

UNRWA opens new clinic

JERASH (Petra) — The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) Tuesday inaugurated the new premises of Suf camp clinic, which was constructed at a cost of JD 130,000. The new health clinic, which replaces the old building, constructed in 1968, to cater for some 15,000 people living in the camp.

Al Koura distributes tree saplings

DEIR ABEE SAEED (Petra) — Al Koura district agriculture department started Monday distributing forest tree saplings to citizens and government institutions to plant them in certain places in the district. Department Director Zakaria Al Wadi said 30,000 saplings were prepared by the department to be planted in 2,000 dunums of land. Al Koura district will observe Arbor day next Saturday. The main celebration which will be attended by senior government officials from the district will be held near the Islamic cemetery in Deir Abee Saeed town.

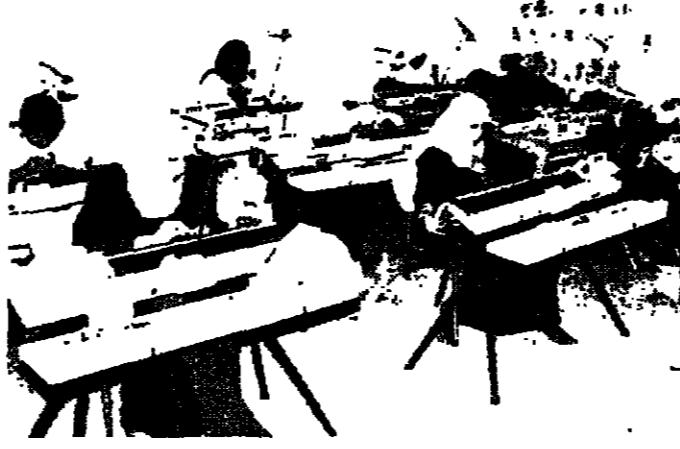
Red Crescent announces nominee for executive board

AMMAN (Petra) — The executive committee of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRS) decided Monday to nominate JNRS Vice-President Mohammad Al Haddad for the membership of the executive council of the international league of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. In another development, the society announced that it has presented in-kind assistance to patients receiving psychiatric treatment at Al Fuheis Mental Health Hospital. The assistance which included clothes and blankets was presented to the Jordanian Society for Psychological Rehabilitation which will distribute them to patients at the hospital.

Education committee convenes

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lower House of Parliament's Education Committee held a meeting Monday under its Chairman Deputy Abdal-Hafiz Alawi. The committee debated the education temporary law no. 27 for 1989.

22 low-income citizens benefit from QAF loans in 1992



Jordanian women receive training at a QAF industrial sewing workshop (file photo)

National ceramic centre

This project started in Amman 1989. It employs at the moment 26 young talented ceramists who were trained by experts at the unit in Amman. The project aims at maintaining the craft of pottery within the young generation keeping the Jordanian authentic look on its products, by using Jordanian and Islamic decorations. Faced with very high local demand for ceramics, QAF is now expanding the project by establishing a new plant capable of producing 30,000 pieces per month and opening new job opportunities. Another expansion will be in Taibet, an old city in the south of Jordan that was known for years ago to be famous for producing Nabataean pottery. This unit will also provide more job opportunities for the young of Jordan.

Industrial sewing

QAF runs vocational training programmes for women through its centres all around the country. Women receive training on sewing

ing and knitting machines for courses of three to 12 months. Qualified and willing women who continued their training programmes join the industrial sewing workshops. They earn satisfactory income to support their families. For the time being the QAF is supporting these units by providing tenders for factories and schools.

Dairy processing

Production of white cheese and dried yoghurt from sheep milk is a traditional food processing activity practised by Jordanians in rural communities all over Jordan. QAF built on this traditional skill and started projects through its centres in Mafrqa and Madaba districts, utilising local sources of milk and providing job opportunities for 50 families.

In an attempt to alleviate the unemployment problem severely affecting the rural area in Jordan resulting from the Gulf crisis and the present economic situation in Jordan, QAF is trying to start more income generating project with high labour intensity.

Ministry to meet needs of services councils

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment is currently preparing a list of priorities to meet the needs of joint services councils formed by towns and villages in implementation of recommendations taken by heads of 58 councils who met in Irbid last weekend.

Ministry Secretary General Asem Ghosheh said that the list mainly contains the councils' needs of means to conduct maintenance and cleaning services.

A task force has already started preparing the list after conducting studies of problems facing each individual village and town, said Mr. Ghosheh.

The 58 heads of councils met under the chairmanship of Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and Environment Abdul Razzak Tabeishat at the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) to discuss outstanding problems impeding public and municipal services, including the need of staff and machinery, garbage collection trucks and other equipment.

The meeting also conducted a general review of the councils' financial positions and the rescheduling of their debts.

JPA grateful for Petra staff raise

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Press Association (JPA) Tuesday voiced deep appreciation to Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker for his continued support of Jordanian journalists.

Commenting on the Council of Ministers' decision last Saturday to grant a 30 per cent pay increase to journalists employed by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, for overtime work, JPA President Suleiman Qudah said the decision was "a translation of the prime minister's humanitarian stand and his appreciation of the journalists' work."

"The journalists welcomed warmly this decision, which came to serve them justice as they have been demanding better wages and work conditions," said Mr. Qudah.

The JPA had been seeking from the successive governments and information ministers to have fair and favourable response to their just demand over the past years," he said.

The government decision, Mr. Qudah said, was one of numerous steps promised to be taken by Sharif Zeid to meet the aspirations and improve the conditions of the Jordanian journalists, said Mr. Qudah.

The Petra staff had staged a six-hour work stoppage earlier this month in support of their demand for a 30 per cent pay increase similar to treatment accorded to the staff of Radio and Television Corporation.

The Gulf crisis, as seen by Dr. Hammadi, has also revealed to the Arab people the double standards of Western countries in dealing with international affairs.

"(This) had never been so clear to the world until the Gulf War erupted," he said.

Dr. Hammadi said a national

University receives grant for water harvest research

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada will provide the University of Jordan (UJ) with 250,000 Canadian dollars in technical assistance to help it conduct water harvesting and other related activities in accordance with an agreement signed at the University of Jordan Tuesday.

Dr. Walid Abu Gharbieh, dean of the university's Faculty of Agriculture, told the Jordan Times that the project was part of the faculty's ongoing programme in the eastern areas on the periphery of the desert.

The project, he said, aims at developing the semi-arid regions that are threatened with desertification through the utilisation of surface water.

Under the agreement with the IDRC, experts from Canada will be coming to Jordan to help the faculty better utilise the surface water resources in a bid to provide more quantities of water for agricultural development, said Dr. Abu Gharbieh.

The Montreal-based Concordia University will provide specialists for the project, which will be implemented in cooperation with

the Aleppo-based International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA), said Dr. Abu Gharbieh.

He said that the university will carry out the project at its centre in Muwaqqar, where it runs an agricultural station conducting research work and along the eastern dry lands which receive an annual average of 100 to 200 millimetres of rainfall. This is a wide area where the university students can get training. Dr. Abu Gharbieh added. He said following the end of the three-year project under this agreement Jordanian experts will carry on the project.

He said the facilities will be accessible to students preparing for their masters degree in agriculture and land development.

Furthermore, the project aims at creating what Dr. Abu Gharbieh called an integrated model of dry land being developed through water harvesting techniques with a view to increasing agricultural production and preventing soil erosion.

Dr. Abu Gharbieh expected the project to become successful and serve as a unique project of its kind in the arid regions of the world. The agreement was signed by University President Dr. Fawzi Gharaibeh and an IDRC representative.

Princess Wijdan stresses diversity of Islamic art

AMMAN (Petra) — Princess Wijdan, chairperson of the Royal Society for Fine Arts, Monday delivered a lecture entitled "Islamic Art in the Twentieth Century" at the Jordan Writers Association.

Princess Wijdan stressed that Islamic arts include all art works by Muslims, Christians and Jews living under Islamic rule.

She said Islamic arts do not include only constructing domes and minarets, but "they also include all architectural works, city planning, handicrafts, calligraphy, music, painting, and manufacturing of weapons."

The Islamic art, she said, had borrowed a lot of aesthetic principles and values from the Byzantines, Indians, Barbarians and other civilisations and developed

these sets of principles and values to conform to the message of Islam.

Princess Wijdan reviewed in her lecture the development of Islamic arts and art schools during various times. "The roots of the Islamic art started to appear during the Ummayyad period, grew up during the Abbasid period, flourished in the Fatimid era and reached its climax in Andalusia," she said.

Princess Wijdan said she agreed with art critics and experts who said that no significant development in the Islamic art was witnessed since the fragmentation of the Islamic empire. "Imitating and repeating previous works do not mean development," she asserted.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

* Exhibition entitled "Latin American Countries in France" at the French Cultural Centre.

* Exhibition of watercolour paintings by Jordanian artist Salam Kanaan at Riwaq Al Balk

Jordan Times

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Ball in U.N. court

THE DECISION by the Arab foreign ministers' meeting in Cairo on Tuesday to demand U.N. Security Council sanctions against Israel rather than announcing a suspension of peace talks with the Jewish state in retaliation for its expulsion of 415 Palestinians last month should not be seen as a split in the Arab ranks. Rather, it should be seen as the better course of action under the given situation, particularly when seen against the backdrop of indications from Washington that the U.S. might not be a willing partner anymore to Israel by wielding its mighty veto power against sanctions on the Jewish state.

Indeed, a suspension of the bilateral peace talks could come at a later stage, when all efforts fail to resolve the expulsion crisis through forcing Israel to permit the return of the expelled Palestinians to their homes in the occupied territories. In the meantime, as Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Sharaa pointed out, the option to hold multilateral talks remains open and such a turn of events would hurt Israel perhaps more than the Arab side since the Jewish state is harbouring long-term economic plans in the region despite the conspicuous Syrian and Lebanese boycott of the regional discussions.

Notwithstanding the public posture of the Palestinians demanding a suspension of the peace talks, the fact remains that any deadlock in the carefully nurtured peace process will not only hurt both sides but also boost the hands of the hardliners who reject a negotiated solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. That is an eventuality that no peace-loving party in the Middle East can ill-afford.

All said and done, the Arab League demand for sanctions against Israel puts the ball right in the court of the Security Council. No doubt what is at stake is the very foundations of the new international role the council appears to have adopted. The question is: Can the council, which took less than a few hours Monday to issue a stern warning to Iraq to end its alleged violations of U.N. resolutions or face the consequences, afford to sidestep the will of the international community — as has been the case whenever Israel is concerned — and play blind to Israel's total refusal to abide by another council resolution?



ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL DUSTOUR daily Tuesday said that the Arab foreign ministers meeting in Cairo to discuss the question of the evictees represents a new move on the part of the Arab countries to support the Palestinians at a time when the United Nations has so far failed to serve them justice. The two U.N. envoys sent to discuss the issue with the Israelis have failed to force the Israeli government to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 799 as Mr. Rabin has adamantly rejected all demands for the repatriation of the 400 Palestinians and has decided never to succumb to pressure from any source, said the daily. In the light of the situation, the Arab foreign ministers have no choice but to take a collective stand and decide on measures that would ensure the re-establishment of Palestinian people's rights and end Israel's arrogance, the paper called. The Arab masses are looking to the foreign ministers in Cairo with hope, awaiting practical measures and expecting real solidarity among the Arabs in the face of the common challenges, said the daily. For common action to be taken, minimum level of solidarity is needed at present, especially in the face of the looming danger represented in Washington's threat to veto any resolution condemning Israel's actions or imposing sanctions on the Jewish state for defying U.N. resolutions, the paper declared. Indeed, the paper said, the present situation resulting from Israel's intransigence places the Arab countries face to face with a serious challenge and calls for a prompt action that would be put into force immediately if the Arabs still count on the peace negotiations to reach a final settlement.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily stressed that neither the Palestinians nor any other Arab people are responsible for the atrocities committed throughout history against the Jewish people. Husni Ayesh said it is true that the Jews were persecuted throughout history, but the persecution was done at the hands of the Europeans and not the Palestinians who are not oppressed in their own country. The writer said that Europe was the source of persecution ever since its nations adopted Christianity, considering the Jews as responsible for the killing of Christ in Jerusalem. He said that it was the Nazi regime of Germany that accused the Jews of being responsible for all the crises in Europe, hence the subsequent persecution. The writer said that under no circumstance should the Palestinians be regarded as being responsible for the persecution of the Jews who are now venting their hatred by directing their wrath against the civilian population of Palestine. The writer pointed out that the Europeans, and not the Palestinians, are responsible for injustice to the Jews and the other oppressed people of the world.

Economic Forum

Something called workers' remittances

Production is carried out by a number of agents called factors of production, which include labour, capital, land and organisation. Each factor is entitled to a portion of the resulting output, termed wages and salaries (for labour), interest and dividends (for capital), rent (for land) and profit or loss (for organisation or entrepreneurs). We call these portions "factor income."

Gross domestic product refers to goods and services produced (GDP) in a given country by factors of production residing in that country, whether national or foreign. Subtract from GDP the portions of foreign factors and add to it the portions of national factors residing abroad (net factor income) and you get gross national product (GNP).

Jordanians working abroad are one factor of production and therefore the totality of their salaries must be added to our GNP. But they spend part of their salaries on consumption, that is for buying goods and services where they work. This part represents Jordanian imports and must as such be subtracted from our GNP so that only the savings of these workers enter, in the final analysis, our GNP. These savings are what national accountants term as "remittances" and they record them as such when they

are remitted to Jordan because it is only then that they come to know about them.

If Jordanian capital (including these remittances after they are sent to Jordan) migrates to other countries for whatever reasons, including flight motives, it must not be treated as remittances when it is transferred back to Jordan, but as capital movements which include two major categories: loans and investments. A deposit kept abroad by a Jordanian is an investment which earns interest so that when it is sent back to Jordan, only that interest goes into GNP.

The correct specification and thereafter accurate estimation of workers' remittances is crucial to determine GNP and its growth rate which measures, in turn, how adequate or otherwise is the performance of the Jordanian economy, lest we should live with, and on, statistical gimmicks.

Data on remittances of Jordanian workers appears in the balance of payments tables. The 1992 figure stands at \$1,214 million (net) against \$1,108 million in 1991. These figures invite two acute remarks.

First, the 1992 figure is higher than that of 1991. The oddity here is that the exodus of Jordanians from Kuwait and other Gulf countries in the aftermath of the Gulf crisis was logically expected to greatly depress, not boost, the 1992 figure. Second, we have been told that these figures cannot be treated as part of GNP in the Jordanian context, contrary to scientific standards. In other words, here is a situation where remittances are not remittances but just a statistical nicety. We have been additionally told that only 10 per cent of these remittances are treated in Jordan as part of GNP.

The obvious conclusion is that Jordanian capital returning back home is, most likely, classified as workers' remittances. We seem to lump together very crude data and label them as remittances. This is most misleading and confusing. Worse still, is the fact that actual GNP cannot be estimated with any degree of satisfactory credibility. And this practice (the 10 per cent ration) was introduced only in late 1989 which means that heavy doubts should be cast on GNP figures and its growth rates in the preceding era.

Don't dismiss the Balkans as a sideshow

By Brian Beedham

LONDON — If there is one proposition about the war in ex-Yugoslavia that gets everybody nodding sagely, it is the proposition that the Balkans are nowadays a bit of a sideshow.

Those who urge a western intervention in the war argue that today — unlike, say, in 1914 — a fight in the Balkans will not explode into a world war, because the great powers no longer glare at each other across this corner of Europe. The anti-interveners say that, for exactly the same reason, Europe and Serbs do not need to worry if Serbia beat up Croats and Muslims in this now obscure tangle of hills and rivers.

The sage nodding is premature. The present relative unimportance of the Balkans may be only temporary. The region could once again become a cockpit of great-power rivalries; and it is all the likelier to do so if Europe and America continue to mishandle the horrors of ex-Yugoslavia.

The Balkans matter whenever Europe faces a rival power to its southeast, and/or a rival power to its northeast, and when their conflicting interests collide in this ill-placed part of the map. They have been so colliding for large stretches of recorded history.

The trouble is that the Slav family includes the Serbs — the chief cause of the present Balkans disaster. And already voices in Moscow are saying that Russia's true loyalty should be Serbia, not to some woolly international attempt to protect Bosnian Muslims.

This looming re-emergence of the Balkans triangle makes it nonsense to say that the West need not bother about what happens in ex-Yugoslavia. Of course, a western policy designed to check Serbian expansion will anger the pan-Slav faction in Russia.

But better to pay that price now, while Russia is still weak and hesitant, than to pay the price of letting Serbian expansion go unchecked.

Letting it go unchecked means encouraging the pan-Slavists in Russia to believe that expansionism works, which is a lesson West will remember when Russia has regained its strength. That nourishes the wrong sort of future Russia.

Letting Serbia expansion go unchecked also means telling the Islamic World that the West will do nothing to save the Balkan Muslims, apart from sending them occasional convoys of food and piously calling for peace, please. That increases the prospect of a Muslim intervention, and it nourishes the wrong sort of resentment.

In Bosnia and Kosovo, the world's Muslims watch fellow Muslims being brutalised by non-Muslims — and the West doing nothing to stop it. If the West continues to do nothing, the Muslim countries will send more weapons to their coreligionists in ex-Yugoslavia. They may also send fighting men. In that case, a new Muslim power would in effect already have set foot inside Europe. Even if things do not go that far, Bosnia and Kosovo will

'People who are citizens of an occupied country have the right to fight for their freedom.'

(Margaret Thatcher)

Haunting images

The following is a letter addressed to British Prime Minister John Major by a British citizen at the end of December.

Until a few days ago I was visiting one of the Arab countries. While there, I noticed on television that you were welcoming to the U.K. the current prime minister of Israel, Yitzhak Rabin.

I am sure you must be aware that most of the Israeli government leaders were formally members of terrorist organisations: The Irgun Zvai Leumi, The Stern Gang and the Haganah, who were responsible for the killing in cold blood, of many British servicemen.

It was in the course of the showing of the Israeli film "Pillars of Fire", on Nov. 14, 1986, that the former prime minister of Israel, Menachem Begin, admitted that he, along with other members of the Stern Gang, including Rabin, had placed the bombs which destroyed the King David Hotel on July 22, 1946, when 91 British servicemen were killed.

It was also recently admitted by Major General Moshe Bar-Kochbar (Israeli army) that terrorist organisations Irgun, Stern Gang and Haganah were integrated into and even formed the backbone of the Israeli army when it was first set up in 1948.

On the basis of that information, no one should be surprised that there exists such contempt for Palestinian human life, demonstrated daily by the Israeli army and the Shin Bet.

On the very day you were shaking the hand of Yitzhak Rabin, three teenage boys, no more than children, were shot dead by the Israeli army in the Gaza Strip.

It was, of course, Yitzhak Rabin who ordered the "Iron Fist Policy" at the commencement of the intifada, and I clearly remember him defending the shooting of four schoolchildren on Dec. 17, 1988. Let me quote him: "The killings are part of my government's policy; it was necessary, the flare-ups will be kept in check with an iron fist policy."

We seem to talk a lot about ethnic cleansing these days, but as far as the postwar era is concerned, this policy originated in the land which had been home to the Palestinians (who just happen to be the descendants of the Canaanites) for over two thousand years. In fact, it was Joseph Weitz who, as early as 1940, said with some arrogance before the setting up of the state of Israel in 1948:

"Among ourselves, it must be clear that there is no place in the country for both peoples together ... with the Arabs, we shall not achieve our aim of being an independent people in this country. The only solution is Eretz-Israel, without Arabs ... and there is no other way but to transfer the Arabs from here to the neighbouring countries. Transfer all of them, not one tribe or one village should remain."

I have spent many years in the Arab World (my first visit was in 1952 in fact) and even after all these years, I am continually reminded, even by teenagers, of Britain's responsibility for the partition of the Palestinian homeland.

It is very difficult to assess what the Gulf war achieved, except perhaps to create another "Palestinian situation" for the unfortunate Kurds. If the object was to topple Saddam Hussein, then that has clearly failed because, as I move around the Arab World, it is now quite clear that he is looked upon as some sort of martyr who had the courage to stand up against America and Israel; but there is the other side of this coin, as far as Britain is concerned.

I realised early in my experience of the Muslim/Arab World, their mentality is such that they do not forgive nor forget very easily, and I firmly believe the high profile which Britain assumed in the Gulf war has done irreparable damage to the long-term interests of our country.

Our relationship with a number of Arab states is at a pretty low ebb and I am already seeing countries like China, and even some of the former Soviet states, setting their sights on the market chances, where once Britain was unopposed.

But let me come back to Israel. I am sure you must know that it was Mossad which trained the dreaded secret police, the Securitate of Romania, the hit squads of the drug barons of Colombia and the evil men who kept Papa Doc of Haiti in power for many years. I could extend this list to other states, but space does not permit.

You will be aware of course that the United Nations Human Rights Commission ruled on Feb. 10, 1989, that Israel was guilty of war crimes in the occupied territories, and I think we should be most circumspect in talking about war crimes in Iraq.

I have visited Israel and in the occupied territories of Gaza and the West Bank I have seen with my own eyes the atrocities of which Israel is guilty. I have taken statements from mothers who have seen their children shot dead in front of them, and wives who have witnessed their husband, or sometimes the only breadwinner of the family, beaten to death before their eyes.

I have sat on the beds of brain-damaged little children, beaten by club-swinging Israeli soldiers who I can only describe as thugs. There were also children, victims of explosive bullets, their limbs and little bodies blown apart and who, like the brain-damaged children, will never recover.

I am sure that to the end of my days I shall be haunted by the sight and disfigurement of the young man of 23 who, for no particular reason, whilst walking home from work, was thrown four times face down on a pile of burning rubber tyres by several Israeli soldiers. He was married with two little children. Of course the Israelis are not over-generous with medical supplies in the occupied territories and, most of all, pain-killing drugs are in short supply. That young man died a terrible death, but I am glad I was there to hold his hand as he passed away. It is an experience that I shall never forget, neither will I ever forgive those who were responsible.

I can never understand why, when Israel invaded Lebanon, when it used fragmentation bombs, vacuum bombs, cluster bombs, phosphorous bombs and even bombs resembling toys which, when picked up by the little children, exploded immediately resulting in death or terrible mutilation. Britain remained silent.

Like the toxic gases, which have been used both in Lebanon and the occupied territories by Israel, were of American origin. I know, because I researched the subject.

All these weapons of war are prohibited under the Geneva Convention and the relative protocols. As I believe were the Multi Launch Rocket Systems (MLRS) which were used by the Americans in the Gulf war.

I have to say that I found it somewhat surprising that Clifford Longley, writing in the Daily Telegraph on Dec. 4, alleged that anti-semitism had its origin in this country in the twelfth century.

LETTERS

I am always mindful of the thousands of Palestinians held in Israeli prisons and prison camps, subjected to beatings, torture, electric shock treatment and other forms of inhumanities which I would be reluctant to describe to you in detail. It is admitted by Israel that they hold hundreds, it may even be thousands of people, without trial or charges and they might justly be called hostages. Many of them have been held for years and may never live to reveal the conditions under which they have been held or the treatment they have endured.

On June 20, 1988, it was disclosed by Israel that 72 Jewish prisoners being held in Beersheba prison in south Israel had slashed their wrists in protest at the conditions in the prison. You can imagine the conditions under which the thousands of Palestinians are being held.

Currently, I am watching very closely the situation of the 415 Palestinians being expelled from their homeland by the Israelis.

Surely, prime minister, these tragic Palestinians are in the image of the French Maquis, the Belgian, Dutch, Norwegian and Danish underground elements who fought alongside the allies in World War II for the cause of freedom; and that is not the basis of all human rights?

May I remind you of something that the former prime minister, Margaret Thatcher, said in the House of Commons on Feb. 18, 1986? Speaking on her return from Poland, she said this:

"People who are citizens of an occupied country have the right to fight for their freedom."

Margaret Thatcher was conceding the legality of the action of the Palestinians in attacking the Israeli soldiers in the occupied territories.

Again speaking on her visit to Poland on Nov. 14, 1988, she said "I feel the people's love of liberty and their yearning for freedom, and nothing could be more moving."

As I walked through the narrow streets of Gaza and spoke with the Palestinians in other occupied territories, I also experienced their yearning for freedom and liberty and perhaps, better than most, I knew what she meant.

I have also toured the Palestinian refugee camps in Syria and Jordan and they really do believe that one day, wise statesmanship will prevail and they will be able to return to their homeland.

Perhaps I should explain that I am in my 54th year of working with sick, handicapped and underprivileged children in a voluntary capacity, involving children from many countries.

I shall be 79 next year, and I must say that I never really thought I would live to see so much tragedy and suffering in the last years of my life, so much of which could have been prevented by wise leaders.

I was involved, in pre-World War II, in bringing Jewish children out of Hitler's Germany.

Now I am haunted by the knowledge that it may well be the children of some of those we helped to escape to the West who are committing the atrocities and the killing of the Palestinian people.

Reg Cleaver,
9 Elm View,
Ash Hill,
Aldershot Hants,
Great Britain.

Time to wake up

To the Editor:

As life progresses at a fast pace, with universal changes taking place every split of a second, we, in the Arab World still seem to be in a state of hibernation. What is most striking about our situation is that we are so mesmerised by this state that the other so-called civilised parts of the world have become our masters, and we, their puppets.

Isn't it high time we woke up? What is most saddening is that we blame the West and Israel for all that has happened and is still happening to us. Meanwhile, with us blabbering all the time, the West and Israel have been busy advancing technologically and concocting more tyrannical plans to exterminate us.

Moves under way to end dispute

(Continued from page 1)

government faced a dilemma, Mr. Najdawi said. "Before April 1989 people with certain political leanings enjoyed freedoms and certain others — like the left — did not. Today, in 1993, that status quo has not been changed legally."

According to Mr. Najdawi the refusal of the government to give legal status to the three left-wing parties undermined the democratic and pluralistic society that Jordan wants to become." He said that the issue was less legal than political.

"The issue is in fact political and not legal and we hope we can work out our differences with the governmental committee which is assigned to this problem," Mr. Najdawi added.

A governmental committee which will follow up the issue of political groups facing a rejection of their legal status by the Ministry of Interior will be made up of Messrs Hindawi and Suleiman as well as Minister of Interior Jawdat Shoul, according to political party officials involved in the dialogue.

Asked if being grouped with three parties that had been denied political party status

undermined his chances of being legalised, Mr. Amer of DPPI said: "No."

"I believe that if any application is rejected it will be on a purely legal basis," said Mr. Amer, who is the secretary general of his organisation.

"When some of the leftist parties were being rejected I felt that there was a political bias against the left and I questioned the direction that the democratisation process was taking," said Mr. Amer.

After the initial meeting with the government delegation Mr. Amer said he "felt reassured about the intentions that directed the government's decisions."

The Ministry of Interior confirmed that the five parties still awaiting a response from the ministry had been informed of when they would receive an answer on the status of their applications.

The Unity Party, will receive a response between Feb. 5 and 11 and the Freedom Party, headed by Fawaz Zoubi, between Feb. 10 and 16. The Democratic Socialist Jordanian Party, headed by Issa Madanat and the Party of Progress and Justice, headed by Dr. Zeid Hamzeh will receive a response between March 1 and 7.

Sahaf: Iraq has U.N. approval

(Continued from page 1)

According to the minister, if UNIKOM felt that the number of Iraqis involved in the operations was too high, then "this is something else." "If you want the number to be less than what had been or more than what it is until now, then you have to give us more time to evacuate the property," he said.

Mr. Sahaf flatly rejected a U.N. demand that the equipment already removed be returned. "They have no legal ground to ask us to do this," he said. "They cannot take the right of possession of Iraqi property. They don't have the jurisdiction."

"If there is such a decision it is really outrageous and it is illegal."

Iraqis continue to remove equipment

(Continued from page 1)

"So I can imagine that further action in this respect could be taken ... without necessary asking for a green light from the council. That is definitely a not very distant, but a very feasible possibility," Mr. Erdos added.

Mr. Bush's press secretary, Marvin Fitzwater, accused Iraq of "a clear pattern of violation" of U.N. resolutions and said it cannot continue.

Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Ali Al Sabah told parliament on Tuesday that the emirate was prepared to repel any Iraqi military threat.

"The defence lines along our borders are capable of turning back any attack by Iraqi forces present in southern Iraq," Sheikh Ali said.

About 250 U.N. personnel with no weapons watch the barren Iraq-Kuwait borders around the clock for violations of Gulf war ceasefire agreement or any other United Nations resolutions.

The United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) has 18 observation posts along the disputed 210-kilometre border. In case of violations, the observers' job is to inform the United Nations about it.

Mr. Kabbaj said the Iraqis had not asked permission to enter the demilitarised zone where the former base is located and no clearance had been given.

But he added that it was not clear if the incursion had broken Gulf war ceasefire agreements. He did not explain why Tuesday's incident may not have been a breach.

Similar incidents on Sunday and Monday were described by the United Nations as violations.

The weapons raid, days of tension over Iraq's deployment of missiles in the Western-imposed "no-fly" zone in southern Iraq and Baghdad ban on weapons inspectors using U.N. planes have put Baghdad and its foes back on collision course.

The United States and Britain said that force may be used against Baghdad to enforce compliance with U.N. resolutions.

But diplomats in the region said Iraq leader appeared confident the U.S.-led allies would not risk war to prevent it from taking Iraqi arms and other equipment from the former naval base.

At least 15 U.S. warships and up to 200 aircraft are poised in the Gulf to carry out any decision sanctioned by the U.N.

Some diplomats said the Iraqis clearly believed they had blanket permission to enter the zone at any time before a Jan. 15 deadline to remove equipment left behind after the six-week Gulf war.

But under the proper procedure the Iraqis need to seek, and receive, clearance from UNIKOM whenever they entered the demilitarised zone to gather material, they said.

UNIKOM said the Iraqis had

Arabs demand sanctions on Israel

(Continued from page 1)

followed and respected and the Security Council should assume its responsibilities like it did in other issues. The law must be above everybody. There should be no state below or above the law. We want an end to double standards," Dr. Abdul Meguid said.

The Arabs realise that Washington might veto any sanctions resolution but refuse to concede the point in advance. They are angry that the Security Council has used sanctions against Iraq, Libya and the states of former Yugoslavia but not against Israel.

The Arab statement did not threaten to suspend Middle East peace talks, which delegates said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had suggested.

The PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat told Reuters after a meeting of Islamic states in Dakar: "The solution of the Palestinian problem will be the assurance of the continuation of the peace talks."

Asked if this meant no more talks until the Palestinians returned home, Mr. Arafat said: "Definite."

Israeli officials declined to comment. Foreign ministry spokesman Eviatar Manor said: "We don't react to comments by Arafat. He can say whatever he wants."

Syria, which for four decades refused to contemplate direct negotiations with Israel, said that at least the bilateral talks should continue because they were in Arab interest.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa said multilateral talks on the long-term development of the Middle East were more important to Israel and could be suspended if need be.

The Syrian minister told the meeting: "If we have to suspend the negotiations, let us start by suspending the multilateral negotiations in which a number of Arab states are taking part."

"This would definitely be a bigger blow to Israel than suspending the bilateral talks. In the bilateral talks we want to get back our lands and our usurped rights. But in the multilateral talks Israel wants many things."

This was the closest the resolution came to either the bilateral and multilateral Arab-Israel negotiations.

Weather tears oil tanker into pieces

(Continued from page 1)

the oil completely submerged. The ship's funnel swayed with the dark brown swell.

Oil from the ship has killed hundreds of sea birds and endangered seals, otters and other wildlife in one of the most important wildlife areas in Western Europe.

Officials said a total of 626 dead birds had been recovered but the death toll is likely to mount now it is clear that most of the tankers oil has gushed into the sea.

Russia strongly condemned its old ally Iraq for the incursions but fought shy of saying whether military action should be taken against Baghdad.

Iraq, meanwhile, said it was open to talk "to achieve peace and security which guarantees the legal rights of Iraq in sovereignty and independence."

Al Qadissiya, the official army newspaper, blamed Iraq's recent troubles on Mr. Bush, saying he had "criminal intentions" against Iraq.

The political editor of the Iraqi News Agency Tuesday that "Iraq did not violate the demilitarised zone and did not interfere with the work of the (U.N.) observers ... and did not make any kind of provocative attack against them."

The editor also said that the only items removed were "civilians material and non-banned equipment."

Last week, Iraq moved anti-aircraft batteries that Washington and its allies said were threatening Western aircraft patrolling the "no-fly" zone in southern Iraq. But Baghdad continues to shuttle the missiles about the area, U.S. officials said Monday.

U.S. General John Shalikashvili said Iraqi anti-aircraft missiles in the northern "no-fly" zone "were brought up to an operational status in the last few days."

U.S. Air Force Major Mike Waters, the spokesman for a Western air force based in Turkey, said there was no state of heightened alert at the Incirlik air base and the coalition planes were continuing their normal duties.

Iraq also has insisted that U.N. weapons inspectors flying into the country use Iraqi Airways planes instead of U.N. charters. That has created a stalemate stalling U.N. weapons inspection programmes in the country.

On Sunday, Iraqi workmen removed four Silkworm missiles and explosives that had been left behind by Iraqi forces in the Gulf war. The munitions were slated for destruction by the United Nations.

UNIKOM said the Iraqis had

Israel proposes halting nuclear spread

(Continued from page 1)

the Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies in Tel Aviv, agreed that Mr. Peres would be setting a precedent by mentioning nuclear arms specifically.

Mr. Alpher said the first sign of a change in policy would be in October in the draft Israeli-Jordanian agenda for peace talks. It called for a Middle East free from non-conventional weapons in the context of comprehensive peace.

The next round of bilateral talks is scheduled for Feb. 20 in Washington. No tangible progress was achieved in eight previous rounds.

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Tourabi: Sudan army rulers to step down

(Continued from page 1)

useful role.

"The executive power is now in the council of ministers. The legislative power is in parliament. There is no place, actually, for that council any more," he said.

Dr. Tourabi said he himself would never run for public office

and the NIF no ambition to be a regular political party, declaration: "We never aspire to political power, never."

Asked if the NIF had learned from the past and preferred influence to open control, he said: "Absolutely, absolutely, absolutely."

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Bosnian Serbs accept peace proposal

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Cosic said he would travel to Bosnia soon, evidently to sell the accord to Bosnian Serb hardliners worried that peace gains are being sacrificed.

Only the Bosnian Croats, the smallest ethnic group, have signed the peace plan.

Earlier Tuesday, the talks were on the verge of collapse after Mr. Karadzic, insisted again on a Bosnian Serb state, the main obstacle at the talks. A full meeting of all three factions in Bosnia broke up without agreement.

But, diplomatically isolated, Mr. Karadzic returned to talk with Mr. Vance and Lord Owen several hours later.

Mr. Vance said Mr. Milosevic, who joined the Geneva talks for the first time Monday, had urged Mr. Karadzic to accept the mediators' constitutional principles that keep Bosnia a sovereign state.

Somalia peace talks deadlocked

(Continued from page 1)

because he's frightened the others will form a block vote against him," said one political analyst attending the talks. He asked not to be named.

The tumultuous meeting, which began Jan. 4, was scheduled to conclude Monday or Tuesday morning, with delegates returning to Somalia later Tuesday. A U.N. spokesman said.

According to spokesman



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Saby still leads Paris-Dakar Rally

PARIS (R) — Bruno Saby was content to protect his big lead as he drove his Mitsubishi into fifth place in the sixth African stage of the Paris-Dakar Rally Monday.

Pierre Lartigue, the only driver with a realistic chance of catching him, finished one minute 48 seconds faster in his Citroen but the gap between the two French was still an enormous one hour 36 minutes 32 seconds.

The 626-km special stage through Algeria's spectacular shifting dunes and petrified forests of the Chech Erg from Adrar to Chenchen was won by four-times Paris-Dakar winner Ari Vatanen of Finland in a citroen but he remained more than seven hours behind the leader in seventh place.

Mitsubishi's Erwin Weber

(Germany) was second fastest and Citroen's Hubert Auriol (France) third.

Weber lost several minutes with a puncture, then stopped to help Japanese teammate Kenjiro Shinozuka, whose clutch had gone just 100 kms into the stage.

Shinozuka lost third place overall to Auriol "but I think we can get it back," said the Veteran Japanese, who managed to his Mitsubishi to the finish.

Bike leader Stephane Peterhansel is also defending his position with careful riding. The French Yamah rider was happy to let team mate Jordi Arcards of Spain win the stage, although he finished second with 85 minutes still in hand over his closest overall rival, France's Thierry Charbonnier on a Yamaha.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Ahli, Orthodoxi and Jalil score wins

AMMAN (J.T.) — Three basketball matches were played Tuesday as the First Division Championship resumed with Al Ahli crushing Al Abbasi 119-50, the first half ending 62-9. Meanwhile Al Orthodoxi defeated Horremmen 166-58, and Al Jalil overcame Al Watani 78-69. The Jazireh-Hussein match was postponed until Jan. 18.

Spurs beat Pistons to continue two streaks

NEW YORK (R) — The San Antonio Spurs beat the Detroit Pistons 109-91 as the two National Basketball Association clubs continued to head in opposite directions. The Spurs recorded their consecutive win with the road victory and fifth in their last six games, while Detroit has dropped three in a row and four of their last five games. Dale Ellis scored 23 points to lead the Spurs, who never trailed and had six players in double figures. David Robinson contributed 18 points, 14 rebounds and four blocked shots. Antoine Carr added 17 points and 11 rebounds and Sean Elliott chipped in with 14 for the Spurs. In the only other NBA contest scheduled Monday, Larry Johnson scored 24 points as the Charlotte Hornets routed the pathetic Dallas Mavericks 132-113. Alonzo Mourning and Kendall Gill added 20 apiece for the Hornets, who have two in a row and three of their last four games. Mourning also had 10 rebounds and four blocked shots before fouling out after playing just 27 minutes. The loss was the 12th in a row for the Mavericks, winners of just two of 29 games this season. Rookie Sean Rooks led the Mavericks with 20 points and Derek Harper chipped in with 17.

Kasparov predicts short match with Short

SAN LORENZO DE EL ESCORIAL, Spain (R) — Britain's Nigel Short and Jan Timman of the Netherlands began the second game of their \$200,000 World Championship eliminator match. Short, lucky to escape with a draw in Sunday's draw in Sunday's first game, was playing with white pieces in the well-tried Ruy Lopez Opening. The winner of the 14-game series will challenge Russia's Garry Kasparov for the world championship later this year. Kasparov has forecast that Short will come through as his challenger. "My opponent will be Short and the match will be short," he said recently.

Elton John resigns as Watford director

LONDON (R) — Pop star Elton John has resigned as a director at English First Division Club Watford, effectively ending a 19-year official connection. In a letter to his successor former club chairman John said his touring commitments prevented him from giving the club the attention the job demanded. Watford rose from the Fourth Division to the first and reached the Football Association (F.A.) Cup final under the leadership of John and Graham Taylor, now the England manager.

Washington wins, Adams upsets Chesnokov

AUCKLAND (AP) — Top-seeded Malvai Washington struggled to a three-set victory Tuesday, while fellow American Chuck Adams upset third-seeded Andrei Chesnokov in the first round of the \$142,500 Benson and Hedges Open tennis championship. Washington downed Spaniard Marcos Gorri 3-6, 6-4, 6-3 after an uncomfortable first set and a half. Doubles expert Adams stunned the Russian 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (13-11) in a marathon. Washington struggled on serve and sprayed groundstrokes wide before finally finding form against Gorri, who returned particularly well.

Hunger, sharks bring end to trans-Atlantic trip

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — A trans-Atlantic canoe trip by two British brothers has ended on a Jamaican beach after growing hunger, weakness and a close call with a pack of sharks. Of Nunthorpe, Middlesbrough, he and Brother Stuart, 30, were under observation, suffering from malnutrition and painful skin sores and boils. They were admitted after coming ashore at the Western Town of Manchoneal, 68 days after setting off from Cascais, Portugal, in their specially rigged 7-metre (21-foot) canoe. The fell short of their goal — making the first canoe voyage between the European and North American mainland. But they were happy to be in one piece.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH
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LOSE ONE, WIN TWO

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ K J 9 5
♦ 6 4
♦ 7
♦ J 8 6 4 3 2

WEST
♦ Void
♦ K J 9 7 5
♦ 10 8 6 2
♦ A 9 5 10

SOUTH
♦ A 8 7 4 3 2
♦ A 8
♦ A 9 3
♦ 7

The bidding:
South West North East

1 ♦ 2 ♦ 2 ♦ 4

4 ♦ 5 ♦ Pass Pass

5 ♦ Pass Pass Dbl

Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Seven of ♦

There's an old bridge maxim: The five-level belongs to the enemy. South failed to heed this warning and, thanks to brilliant defense, paid a high price.

East-West took advantage of the vulnerability to compete vigorously. Rather than get pushed to five

spades, South should simply have doubled. After the lead of the singleton diamond by North, accurate defense — diamond queen, club shift, ace of hearts, ace of diamonds and diamond ruff, club ruff — would have netted 500 points and North-South would still have been a 3-to-1 favorite to win the rubber.

Incidentally, that highlights another important difference between rubber bridge and duplicate. At duplicate, going down 500 to save a vulnerable game is an excellent result. At rubber bridge it is worthwhile only if both sides are vulnerable.

Declarer won the opening heart lead with the ace and, when West showed out on the lead of low spade, declarer rose with the king to take the diamond finesse. When that worked, dummy's remaining heart was discarded and, to prepare for a crosscut, declarer exited with the seven of clubs. East won and found the killing return — the queen of spades! Declarer could still ruff two of his three red-suited losers on the table, but then had to concede a trump trick and a trick in a red suit for a one-trick set.

Sluggish Sampras advances to 2nd round

SYDNEY (Agencies) — Top-seeded Pete Sampras nearly double-faulted his way out of the \$375,000 New South Wales Open tennis tournament Tuesday before rebounding to defeat Andrei Medvedev 2-6, 6-3, 6-2 in a first-round match.

Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, the No. 2 women's seed, shrugged off an ankle injury to beat Leila Meskhi of Georgia 4-6, 6-4, 6-0. The Spaniard, runnerup here last year, twisted the ankle at deuce with the score 4-3 in the second set. She had it taped heavily and did not seem to be hampered seriously.

Richard Krajicek, the No. 2 men's seed, and Jennifer Capriati, the No. 4 woman, were scheduled to play their matches later at the White City Complex near downtown Sydney.

Sampras, the American ranked third in the world, double-faulted seven times in the first set in the gusty, swirling centre-court winds, including twice at break point to hand Medvedev the lead. He again double-faulted to give Medvedev a break and a 3-2 lead in the second set, before the Ukraine native dug himself a hole in the next game, committing two unforced errors and a double fault.

Sampras ran off nine of 10 games, including a stretch where he won 23 of 29 points. The only problem he had the rest of the way was a brief bloody nose that he blamed on dry conditions in his hotel room.

"I got off to a pretty slow start. I was down a set and a break before I knew it," said the 21-year-old Sampras. "I finally got it together. As the match went on, I played better and better."

He said a first-round battle against a player the caliber of Medvedev, who has risen 202 places in the last year, is still an exciting player and we

current 24th ranking, provides a good idea of how well he is hitting after taking nearly a month off.

"To get through that match is a pretty good effort," Sampras said. "It was a match I could have lost very easily."

He said he feels good going into next week's Australian Open, where injuries have knocked him out the last two years. And the possibility of taking the No. 1 ranking provides extra motivation.

"It's something I've definitely thought about," Sampras said. "I've had two pretty good sniffs at it. But I'm not going to dwell on it."

No. 8 Henrik Holm of Sweden became the second man's seed to fall, losing 6-4, 6-4 to Argentina's Alberto Mancini.

Meanwhile, Helena Sukova, the No. 6 seed who pulled out after hurting a leg in a fall during her match Monday night, announced Tuesday the injury would prevent her from competing in the Australian Open.

Bronchitis forces Agassi out of Australian Open

Bronchitis has forced Wimbledon champion Andre Agassi to withdraw from this month's Australian Open tennis tournament, the opening Grand Slam event of the year, tournament organisers said Tuesday.

Agassi, who would have been playing in his first Open here, had been suffering from a virus and bacterial infection which has developed into bronchitis, according to Tennis Australia president Geoff Pollard.

"Obviously we are disappointed, although Andre's ranking has slipped to nine, he is still an exciting player and we



Ukraine's Andrei Medvedev has improved his standing from #226 to #24

were looking forward to seeing him here," Pollard said in a statement.

The Open, to be played from January 18 to 31, has attracted the world's top five players, including number one Jim Courier who will be defending the title he won in 1992.

The women's draw is the strongest in the Open's history with 29 of the top 30 women players, including number one

and defending champion Monica Seles.

There is also a question mark over Ivan Lendl's fitness for the open after his withdrawal from this week's New South Wales Open with a nagging groin injury.

Lendl, ranked eighth in the world, will practise in Melbourne later this week and then decide whether to put his name in Friday's draw, his coach Tony Roche said.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13, 1993

By Thomas S. Pieron, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

There are no exact aspects today but you may feel a strong and unusual need to be most cooperative with others and not yield to an urge to make problems out of small, unimportant differences.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Avoid early temptation to get involved in a discussion with one of diametrically opposite standpoints to your own and call off a confrontation.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Do nothing to downgrade your good name early but later you can get up in public and show your capabilities so you can advance your prestige.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Think over early how to best spend the day at new activities and sidestep any dreary work routines, by being awake to new interests that appeal.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Your bunches are very inaccurate early but soon you get much more in tune with rightness and are able to advance interests tremendously.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Although you seem to have a feeling of lack early your natural ability to work out and solve practical plans takes over you make big headway.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You feel you do not have enough friends but upon thinking you realise you have many more than you had thought to get in touch with cronies.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You think you are overburdened with problems but if you look at them directly and seek solutions you find you get quickly settled and enjoy handling them.

One in 10 athletes frequent drug user — De Merode

BRUSSELS (R) — Ten per cent of all athletes frequently use drugs and out-of-competition controls were insufficient, top Olympic official Prince Alexandre de Merode, was quoted as saying Monday.

"Based on the steroid profiles there should be 10 per cent users (of drugs) in sports, regular users that is," said De Merode, chairman of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) medical commission.

De Merode, quoted in the three-monthly magazine "News Olympics" issued by the Belgian Olympic Committee, said many athletes had tried drugs occasionally but the number of regular users was decreasing.

He said the system of out-of-competition controls was imperfect, citing China as an example where such testing was believed to be largely insufficient.

"China is often cited as a country where anything goes. Perhaps that is so and are there too few controls? But the policy there can change overnight. It's just a matter of convincing the strong central authorities it should change."

"Out of competition does not mean making your athlete pee one month before the games."

Seles, Courier keep top spots

ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (R) — Top-ranked woman's tennis players, according to rankings issued by the Women's Tennis Association and leading men's rankings as issued by the Association of Tennis Professionals came as follows:

- Monica Seles (Yugoslavia)
- Steffi Graf (Germany)
- Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina)
- Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (Spain)
- Martina Navratilova (U.S.)
- Mary Joe Fernandez (U.S.)
- Conchita Martinez (Spain)
- Jennifer Capriati (U.S.)
- Jana Novotna (Slovak Republic)
- Manuela Maleeva-Fragner (Switzerland)
- Helena Sukova (Czech Republic)
- Mary Pierce (French)
- Anke Huber (Germany)
- Lori McNeil (U.S.)
- Nathalie Tauziat (France)
- Katerina Maleeva (Bulgaria)
- Magdalena Maleeva (Bulgaria)
- Zina Garrison (U.S.)
- Amanda Coetzer (South African)
- Amy Frazier (U.S.)
- Richard Krajicek (Netherlands)

1. Jim Courier (U.S.)

2. Stefan Edberg (Sweden)

3. Pete Sampras (U.S.)

4. Boris Becker (Germany)

5. Goran Ivanisevic (Croatia)

6. Michael Chang (U.S.)

7. Petr Korda (Czech Republic)

8. Ivan Lendl (U.S.)

9. Andre Agassi (U.S.)

10. Richard Krajicek (Netherlands)

11. Wayne Ferreira (South Africa)

12. Guy Forget (France)

13. Carlos Costa (Spain)

14. Malvai Washington (U.S.)

15. Michael Stich (Germany)

16. Sergi Bruguera (Spain)

17. Alexander Volkov (Russia)

18. Thomas Muster (Austria)

19. Henrik Holm (Sweden)

20. John McEnroe (U.S.)



Jim Courier

JUMBLE

JORDAN TIMES

 Financial Jordan Times
in co-operation with
Cairo Amman Bank


U.S. Dollar in International Markets		New York	Tokyo
Currency		Close Date	Close Date
Sterling Pound	1.5515	1.5568	
Deutsche Mark	1.6340	1.6490	
Swiss Franc	1.4920	1.4858	
French Franc	5.5245	5.5275	
Japanese Yen	125.16	125.05	
European Currency Unit	1.2045	1.2097 **	

EUROPEAN OPENING & CLOSE 1000 a.m. GMT		Date: 12/1/93			
Currency		1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.12	3.31	3.45	3.87	
Sterling Pound	7.12	6.57	6.68	6.50	
Deutsche Mark	8.56	8.25	8.00	7.57	
Swiss Franc	5.43	5.43	5.38	5.12	
French Franc	11.25	11.12	10.57	9.37	
Japanese Yen	3.81	3.68	3.56	3.50	
European Currency Unit	10.25	10.21	9.61	9.06	

INTERBANK RATES FOR AMOUNTS EXCEEDING U.S. DOLLARS 1,000,000 OR EQUIVALENT.		Date: 12/1/93			
METAL	USD/OZ	JD/GM ²	METAL	USD/OZ	JD/GM
Gold	328.00	6.45	Silver	3.67	.080

21 Karat

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Date: 12/1/93

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.688	0.690
Sterling Pound	1.0698	1.0751
Deutsche Mark	0.4211	0.4239
Swiss Franc	0.4616	0.4639
French Franc	0.1241	0.1247
Japanese Yen	0.5498	0.5525
Dutch Guilder	0.3752	0.3771
Swedish Krona	0.0936	0.0941
Italian Lira	0.0465	0.0467
Belgian Franc	0.02049	0.02059

For 100 other Currencies

Date: 12/1/93

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7950	1.8160
Lebanese Lira*	0.03626	0.03945
Saudi Riyal	0.1832	0.1844
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2350	2.2900
Qatari Riyal	0.1864	0.1878
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2150
Omani Riyal	1.7540	1.7730
UAE Dirham	0.1864	0.1878
Greek Drachma*	0.3135	0.3335
Cypriot Pound	1.4173	1.4383

For 100 CAB Indices for Amman Financial Market

Index	10/1/93	Close	11/1/93	Close
AB-Share	180.53	182.03		
Banking Sector	129.45	130.84		
Insurance Sector	196.58	197.87		
Industry Sector	249.61	251.40		
Services Sector	246.44	247.36		

December 31, 1992 = 100

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.5545/55	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2764/69	Canadian dollar
1.6285/95		Deutschmarks
1.8280/320		Dutch guilders
1.4880/85		Swiss francs
33.43/48		Belgian francs
5.5250/300		French francs
1474/1476		Italian lire
125.20/25		Japanese yen
7.3200/300		Swedish crowns
6.9500/600		Norwegian crowns
6.2800/900		Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	328.80/329.20	U.S. dollars

 Cinema Tel: 677420
CONCORD

Kevin Costner in Whitney Houston

BODYGUARD

Shows: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Free Car Parking

 Cinema Tel: 634144
PHILADELPHIA

Harley Davidson and the Marlboro Man

Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Th. + Fr. special show for children at 11:00

The Fox And The Hound

 Cinema Tel: 625155
AHLAN THEATRE

Welcome New World Order

Play will reappear in a new presentation on Jan. 25, 1993 following the theatre's holiday

Happy New Year

 Cinema Tel: 675571
Nabil Al Mashini Theatre

Tuesday January 5th marks the opening of the new theatre season presenting:

Pandamonium (Ta'a wa Qaimah)

Daily at 8:30 p.m.

Tickets office open all day

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Shows: 12:3

Bombay riots ebb as army tightens grip

BOMBAY (R) — Army units tightened their grip on Bombay Tuesday to halt what one newspaper described as a virtual pogrom against Muslims, but scattered cases of arson looting and killing continued for the seventh day running.

Police said 10 more people were killed Tuesday in the Hindu-Muslim clashes that have paralysed India's business capital, including a councilor on the Bombay Municipal Corporation shot dead as she was leading Hindu rioters.

Some 240 people have been killed and hundreds of shops and homes set ablaze in an orgy of communal hatred in Bombay and the western city of Ahmadabad, according to police and hospitals.

A heavy military presence has helped stifle the riots, described in an editorial by the Times of India as a calculated assault by Hindus against the minority Muslim community in Bombay, a city previously known for its tolerance.

"There is method in the madness that has descended on the city had there was been a virtual pogrom against Muslims," the paper said.

"Only homes, shops and cars belonging to them have been singled out for attack, which bears the stamp of a systematic vendetta."

Politicians and residents said local gang leaders had cashed in on the violence to seize valuable



A man and children scurry past charred ruins in the sprawling Indian port city Tuesday (AFP photo)

"Looting and firebombs have reduced our houses to ashes," said Mohammad Aslam, who had lived in Bombay's Dharavi slum area for the past 12 years. "It's better to die starving in our village than die here like this."

"We are being hounded out," said Abdul Karim, the owner of a small stall, as he waited at the station. "I never want to return to this hell again."

The latest violence followed nationwide clashes in December triggered by the destruction of an ancient mosque by Hindu militants in the northern town of Ayodhya.

Hardline Hindus want India, a nation of 870 million people, to be declared a Hindu state. There are at least 100 million Muslims in India, and the ruling Congress Party government has said it is essential to maintain the secular nature of India.

Bombay, a cosmopolitan city where Hindus, Muslims, Christians and Parsis previously lived

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Man dies in IRA killing

BELFAST (AP) — A Protestant man died in a Belfast hospital Monday night, five hours after he was shot in the head in the first Irish Republican Army (IRA) ambush of 1993. The IRA claimed the man in his 50s was the commander of the Ulster Volunteer Force in East Tyrone, an outlawed Protestant paramilitary group. But local lawmaker Ken Maginnis dismissed the allegation and said he knew the dead man well. The victim was the third person killed in sectarian violence in Northern Ireland this year. Last week, two Catholics were killed by Protestant loyalist gunmen. The latest victim was found slumped at the wheel of his car in Dungannon, County Tyrone, with serious head injuries and taken to Belfast's Royal Victoria Hospital where he died, police said.

Legislators elected in 1995 will have four-year mandates but China's plans could mean throwing them out two years before their terms expire.

China's package would conform with the Sino-British joint declaration on the handover and the basic law, Hong Kong's post-1997 constitution, the sources said.

Peking accuses Mr. Patten of breaking the joint declaration and the Chinese-drafted basic law.

But Mr. Patten has denied opening the 1984 declaration and said the law is silent on arrangements for the 1995 elections, the last to be held under British rule.

The comments, the latest in a series of Peking threats since Mr. Patten announced his proposals last October, could mean throwing out Legislative Council (Legco) members elected in 1995 by the people of Hong Kong well before their mandate expires.

China has already promised to overturn Mr. Patten's package and hold its own elections in 1997 even if Legco approves only a diluted version of the reforms after it goes to the legislature next month.

But the sources gave details of how Peking planned to go about unravelling the democratic reforms, saying that a body would be set up in Hong Kong to consult local people.

This would allow rival rules to be announced before Hong Kong residents voted in the 1995 legislative elections, the first — and apparently last — to be held under Patten rules.

"Legco approval will mean an end to Sino-British cooperation over Hong Kong and the British side going ahead unilaterally with the Patten package," one source

to spread panic," he said.

Sierra Leone jail boss held

FREETOWN (R) — Sierra Leone's prison director was arrested after two prominent inmates were executed with 24 other alleged coup plotters, police sources said. They said James Amara and six other prison officers were being questioned on how former police chief James Bamby Kamara and army Colonel James Yaya Kauu managed to conspire in the plot from their prison cells. Amara was suspended shortly after Captain Valentine Strasser's military government announced that the 26 had been found guilty of treason by a special tribunal and sentenced to death by firing squad. The executions were carried out on or before Dec. 30 but the government waited a full week before announcing them.

Venezuela sentences coup plotters

CARACAS, Venezuela (R) — A military court began imposing prison sentences Monday on 225 soldiers and about 25 civilians charged with participating in a bloody coup attempt last November, lawyers for the detainees said. The lawyers, who said they had been expelled from the army fort in the capital where the summary trials were taking place, told reporters some of the men already had been sentenced. There was no immediate comment from the Defence Ministry. The men were arrested for participating in the Nov. 27 uprising in which more than 200 people were killed, many of them civilians. They face sentences of 14 to 30 years on charges of military rebellion.

Tiger leader meets church officials

COLOMBO (R) — Tamil Tiger leader Velupillai Prabhakaran held a rare meeting with church leaders in his northern Sri Lanka stronghold Sunday, the state-owned Daily News reported Tuesday. The paper, quoting informed sources, said Mr. Prabhakaran agreed to release two detained policemen "as a gesture of goodwill to commence peace negotiations." The two are among about 40 police known to be detained by the rebels. Among those who met Mr. Prabhakaran in Jaffna town were Colombo's Anglican Archbishop Kenneth Fernando, and Jaffna's Catholic Bishop Thomas Saundranayagam.

3 more held in Taiwan scandal

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan Monday detained three people, including the brother of a candidate in parliamentary elections held last month, for suspected involvement in alleged vote-rigging, local media said. Wei Tung-Ho, whose brother Wei Mu-Tsun ran as a candidate for the ruling Nationalist Party in the eastern county of Hualien, was detained for questioning along with two local government officials who served as election supervisors. The detentions brought to 12 the number of people held in connection with a scandal which erupted after Mr. Wei beat opposition leader Huang Hsin-Chieh by 62 votes in Hualien during Dec. 19 general elections.

Pollution killing Italy's cities'

ROME (R) — "Horrifying" levels of pollution threaten to destroy Italy's cities, Environment Minister Carlo Ripa di Meana said Monday. He said the government must adopt an immediate plan to fight pollution. "We have to enact a plan right away or our cities will die," Mr. Di Meana said in an interview with the Turin daily *La Stampa*. "Pollution levels...are horrifying. The only reason doctors hold back from telling the truth about the consequences of pollution is because no-one wants



Bettino Craxi

stolen goods and breaking the law on political party funding. The case covers \$25 million in bribes alleged to have been paid to Mr. Craxi's party.

Mr. Craxi, accusing the Milan prosecutors of pursuing a political vendetta, has denied any personal wrongdoing but acknowledged all parties broke the law on political funding.

Altogether 93 politicians and businessmen — many of them close to Mr. Craxi — have been arrested so far in Milan as part of a probe into a well-oiled system of kickbacks paid to local officials in exchange for lucrative public contracts.

Man freed after questioning in Chicago multiple slayings

PALATINE, Illinois (AP) — A man questioned for nearly two days in the restaurant massacre of seven people was released Monday, but a prosecutor said he had not been cleared.

He said his client, of nearby Elgin, was in good physical condition when he saw him. "But he's afraid, he's scared, and he wants to go home," Mr. Born said before the man was released.

Mr. Born said police also should end their "close-lipped policy" that has kept details of the crime and the investigation secret even from the victim's family.

Village President Rita Mullins said she believed the police were doing a good job.

"I would rather they err on the side of caution and do everything right rather than to do something haphazard," she said.

The coroner's office said Monday that Marcus Nellsen, 31, and Lynn Ehlenfeldt, 49, were shot in the head. Mrs. Ehlenfeldt also was stabbed in the neck. The other victims — Richard Ehlenfeldt, 50, Michael Castro, 16, Thomas Menne, 32, Rico-Solis, 17, and Guadalupe Maldonado, 48, suffered multiple gunshot wounds. The Ehlenfeldts owned the restaurant.

Police discovered the bodies of the married restaurant owners and five employees — including two teenagers — early Saturday after they were called by parents of one of the teens who had not returned from work Friday night. They found a back door open and the bodies inside two walk-in coolers.

Police have refused to discuss suspects, motive or any other details in the slayings in this northwest Chicago suburb.

Mr. Born said his client began refusing to answer questions Sunday night. The man asked for his

Graft probe targets Craxi

ROME (R) — Magistrates leading a major Italian corruption probe moved Tuesday to ask parliament to lift Socialist leader Bettino Craxi's immunity from prosecution, court sources said.

Mr. Craxi's problems with the law and a bitter power struggle in his party have turned into a major liability for the Socialist-led government of Prime Minister Giuliano Amato, a long-time Craxi protege.

The leader of Italy's dominant Christian Democrats (DC) has voiced fears the crisis in the Socialist Party could bring down the Amato government.

In a call that rocked Italy's political establishment, DC leader Mino Martinazzoli urged Craxi Monday to take the initiative and himself ask for his immunity to be waived.

"Amato's seat is shaking," warned the Turin daily *La Stampa* Tuesday. "The Amato government risks falling," echoed the Milan daily *Corriere della Sera*. "The government is in danger," said a front-page banner headline in the left-leaning *L'Unita*.

The Milan public prosecutor sent a 118-page document to the Justice Ministry Tuesday detailing the case against Mr. Craxi. As

Mr. Craxi is an MP, this has to be passed on to parliament before any legal action can be taken against him.

Parliamentary sources said they expected the request to be formalised later Tuesday or Wednesday.

A committee of MPs will first have to decide whether the request is admissible. If it is, it will then be put to the vote before the 630 members of the lower house. The Socialist leader is under huge pressure to resign before this happens.

A vote would be a major personal embarrassment for Mr. Amato because of his close ties to Mr. Craxi. It could also deeply split Mr. Amato's coalition. The DC, making clear it would not defend Mr. Craxi, has given its MPs freedom to vote as they wished.

For Mr. Craxi, the affair is a shattering blow to the ambitions of a man who only a few months ago had been dreaming of returning to power, imposing a strong French-style presidential regime and eventually becoming its first head of state.

The former premier was on Dec. 15 notified he faced possible charges of corruption, receiving

OIC calls for armed intervention in Bosnia

DAKAR (R) — The Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Monday backed a call by Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic for armed intervention if Serb forces continued to shell Bosnian Muslims.

"The Serbs should be notified to place the heavy weaponry in their possession under effective international control..." the OIC's closing resolution said.

"If international control cannot be established then the heavy weaponry should be silenced by military means and further military action against strategic targets should be considered."

Mr. Izetbegovic earlier accused the Serbs of using peace talks in Geneva as a smokescreen for military action in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Addressing the OIC emergency meeting in the Senegalese capital, he said Bosnian Muslims would never allow an unjust peace to be imposed upon them.

Mr. Izetbegovic left the Geneva talks with a plea for diplomatic and financial support for his embattled country.

"The best guarantee of communal harmony will be acceptance of cultural nationalism," he said.

The OIC says India's binding force is the Hindu culture of 82 per cent of its 870 million people.

Mr. Advani said he was "not ashamed of the destruction of the Ayodhya mosque but repeated that he did not incite the mob to destroy it and had tried to halt the 200,000 zealots who tore it down."

Mr. Advani said the new rioting was not connected to Ayodhya. "What was happened shows that the government has lost the capacity to govern," he said. "It is virtual non-existence and total paralysis of this government."

national mediators, calling on all three Bosnian factions — including the Serbs — to make it a basis for peace.

But Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, after three hours with international mediators, was still insisting on a mini-state — a demand blocking all progress in the four-month-old talks.

Mr. Izetbegovic and the former Yugoslav republic's Croat leader Mate Boban have already said they accept the constitution proposed by the mediators. Mr. Izetbegovic was expected to return to Geneva Tuesday.

The session of the OIC, which groups 51 Islamic states and organisations, was called to discuss the fate of more than 400 Palestinians expelled to Lebanon by Kelantan, which is governed by the Partai Islam Se-Malaysia. The newspaper said that while no Kelantan official was willing to explain the change, it was obvious that they did not want such a popular tourism spot in Kelantan to conjure images of lust and desire."

Column 8
No more 'Passion' beach in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — A Malaysian state controlled by a fundamentalist Muslim party has ordered the name of a well-known tourist spot — the Beach of Passionate Love — to be changed. Instead it will be called Moonlight Beach, the New Straits Times newspaper said Tuesday in a report of the renaming by the northeastern state of Kelantan, which is governed by the Partai Islam Se-Malaysia. The newspaper said that while no Kelantan official was willing to explain the change, it was obvious that they did not want such a popular tourism spot in Kelantan to conjure images of lust and desire."

Rooster ruffles feathers

MELBOURNE (R) — An Australian lawyer is taking his neighbours to court claiming damages for alleged stress caused by the crowing of their family rooster.

Solicitor Con Kay issued a writ in Melbourne's county court claiming unspecified damages from cameraman Rob McKay and his radiographer wife Rene who owned the noisy bantam, Goldie.

Rene McKay said she was surprised to receive the writ in December as she thought the dispute had been settled a year earlier when they decided to lock Goldie inside at night after Mr. Kay first wrote to them to complain of the noise.

He said the United Nations must take action to end Serbian attacks and relieve beleaguered Sarajevo.

"It is quite obvious that the use of force has now become an urgent and unavoidable necessity if one really wants to end the killings in Bosnia-Herzegovina," Mr. Gabid said.

Charles, Diana in row over press leaks

LONDON (R) — Britain's estranged Prince Charles and Princess Diana were plunged into another embarrassing row Tuesday with accusations that they used news media to publicise rival versions of their marital breakdown.

The heir to the throne and his wife fed details of their rift to different newspaper groups, fueling media frenzy about the relationship, according to a leaked letter from the head of a press watchdog widely quoted in British newspapers.

Headlines said the prince and princess of Wales invited some of the much-criticised media scrutiny of their 12-year marriage — an embarrassment for the couple that dampened prospects of a clean break after their official separation in December.

Princess Diana in particular was criticised in the letter from Lord McGregor, the head of the Press Complaints Commission, for promoting her side of the story through a newspaper group including the tabloid *the Sun*, famous for its royal exposés.

Newspapers gleefully seized on the royal public relations war as ammunition against government-sponsored moves to crack down on the media following outrage over reporting of the private lives of the royals and other public figures.

"Charles, Di and the Dirty Tricks," said the Daily Mirror in a front-page rebuke to the couple and the government, which it said knew about the leaks. "Charles and Diana, far from being victims of a circulation battle by newspapers obsessed with royals were ruthlessly using the press to tell

Confirmation of widely held suspicions that the royals deliberately washed their dirty linen in public is yet another blow to the reputation of the monarchy and the Buckingham Palace public relations machine, which had resisted the press with the press.

Newspapers and opposition politicians said the revelations could undermine sympathy for the unhappy couple and strengthen calls for a review of Britain's constitutional monarchy.

Cambodia not ready for polls yet — UNTAC

PHNOM PENH (R) — The head of the United Nations peacekeeping force in Cambodia — beset by Khmer Rouge intransigence and escalating political violence — says he still hopes to hold elections by May.

Yasushi Akashi, head of the U.N.'s Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), said Monday elections could not be held under the current political climate, but he reaffirmed his intention to proceed with two national polls by May "at the latest."

"The atmosphere and conditions are not yet ripe for free and fair elections," he said on his return from a meeting with Cambodian Head of State Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Peking.

Mr. Akashi heads the 22,000-strong UNTAC team, which is charged with supervising two elections for Cambodia — one for a president and another for a constituent assembly.

These include the provision of UNTAC military and police guards at opposition party offices and U.N. magistrates to hear cases against instigators of civil strife.

The UNTAC chief also warned of his intention to sack government or opposition faction officials implicated in pre-election violence.

"I will not hesitate to exercise that authority where necessary